

Students Take Over New Dorm Planning

By Dana Levine
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Planning for Simmons Hall entered a new phase this week, with the official dissolution of the Founder's Group on Friday and yesterday's first meeting of a student-led Simmons Steering Committee.

Founder's Group member Jeffrey C. Roberts '02 said that although "the Founder's Group has done a pretty good job in laying down the philosophy for the community (Simmons)," the steering committee will be a "government that's more representative of the people who are going to live there."

The steering committee, formed by student members of the Founder's Group, will allow future residents of Simmons Hall to set up a house government, select graduate resident tutors, and to advertise the dormitory to incoming freshmen and current undergraduates. The steering committee will exist until the dormitory opens next fall and the official house government takes over.

Founder's Group members Ross E. Benson '03 and Vikash Gilja '03 will co-chair the new group, providing a bridge between the founder's group and the undergraduates who will move into the dormitory. Roberts, who will begin graduate studies in the fall and may apply to be a Graduate Resident Tutor, will not participate in the steering committee's activities.

Professor of History and future Simmons Hall housemaster Anne E. McCants said that the steering committee was created in order to "transfer student leadership to students who will actually live there." Several of the student members of

the founder's group will graduate this year, and will never have a chance to live in Simmons.

McCants likened the students moving into Simmons to "people who buy a house that isn't finished yet ... Decisions about how they want to set up their governing body, interact with [the Dormitory Council], the house fellows program ... all those decisions are going to be made by students."

The Founder's Group was a committee of faculty members, students, and administrators who provided input into the design of the dorm and helped to formulate initial house policy.

Committee has many tasks

Membership in the steering committee will be open to all students, but will require a commitment to actively attend meetings and to move into Simmons when it opens next fall. The committee will consist of five subgroups: GRTs and Visiting Scholars, House Governance, Facilities Oversight, Publicity, and Dining.

The most immediate task will fall to the publicity subgroup, which will advertise Simmons Hall to upperclassmen as well as next year's freshmen. Simmons Hall will attempt to attract 125 freshmen and 75 members of each other class, the same proportion that other dormitories will have.

Gilja, a member of the publicity subgroup and head of MIT's Interactive Introduction to the Institute (I3) CD-ROM project, said that the subgroup will be able to advertise the committee's work and ideas.

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JENNIFER KRISHNAN—THE TECH

This Baker House room was designed as a triple, but it currently holds five beds and other furniture. Crowding has meant bunk beds and small spaces for many MIT dormitory residents.

Graduate Rooms Could Be Used To Alleviate Undergrad Crowding

By Flora M. Amway

Despite the additional housing that Simmons Hall will provide next year, Chancellor Phillip L. Clay PhD '75 has recommended that graduate student housing be used to alleviate MIT's undergraduate dormitory crowding problem.

Clay's report, e-mailed to administrators and student leaders late last week, discussed the current state of crowding on campus, including causes and potential solutions. Clay explained that "currently we have 140 more undergraduate students than we have uncrowded resident

hall rooms to accommodate them."

Dean for Undergraduate Education Robert P. Redwine supported the report's assertion that one of the best solutions so far may be to house undergraduates in graduate housing. Other ideas include reducing class size, purchasing more housing, or continuing to crowd. However, Clay stated in the report, "Considering all options, I am presently inclined to recommend that we use a fraction of the housing intended for graduate students ..." to address the crowding problem.

However, Dean for Graduate Students Isaac M. Colbert said there

were no good or bad options; each option had its own problems and repercussions that needed to be taken into account before deciding on which one would be most viable.

"Nothing definite has been decided upon and the discussion is still going on with the Chancellor," Colbert said. He said the main purpose of the report was to spread information and gain feedback.

Hundreds affected by crowding

Although the number of crowded

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Jindong Zhou

Jindong Zhou, a second-year doctoral student in the Department of Physics, died last week. He was 27 years old.

"He was a very nice guy," said Bin Zhang G, a member of Zhou's lab group. "He was really quiet ... he always showed his passion in a few words."

Yuan Xiao G, another colleague, described him as "a quiet guy ... but he was ... brilliant."

"He was also very warm-hearted," said Feng Xiong G, who also worked with Zhou. "He liked to help other people. ... Even though he was very busy with his own work, he always responded immediately to other people's requests."

Zhou frequently played badminton and also enjoyed swimming, Xiong said. "He liked to be around friends," Xiong said.

Xiao said Zhou also enjoyed classical music.

Zhou earned his Bachelor's degree from the Department of Modern Physics at the University of Science and Technology of China in 1997, and his Master's from the same department in 2000. He came to MIT in the fall of 2000 to work on his doctorate.

Zhou was a student under Professor William Bertozzi in MIT's Laboratory for Nuclear Science. He had been working at the Thomas Jefferson National Accelerator Facility (Jefferson Lab) in Newport News, Virginia since June 2001.

"He was sent by our group ... to do some experi-

ments for his thesis," Zhang said. "He was supposed to stay there for a couple of years."

Zhou's friends contacted the police on Thursday, January 10, after not seeing him for two days. He was found in dead in his room. The initial police report said he appeared to have died of natural causes, but the exact cause of death is not yet known.

An online memorial for Zhou has been set up at <http://earthsci.mit.edu/jindong>. Over 80 people have already signed the guest book.

Zhou is survived by his father, Tonghong Zhou; his mother, Shunhua Wang; and his younger brother, Jincheng Zhou.



COURTESY THE CHINESE STUDENT AND SCHOLAR ASSOCIATION

Jindong Zhou

IFC JudComm Lightens Ruling Against Chi Phi

By Kevin R. Lang
NEWS EDITOR

More than three months after the close of rush, the Chi Phi fraternity has finally settled their appeal with the Interfraternity Council over fall rush violations.

Following an appeal hearing before the IFC Judicial Committee on Monday, Dec. 10, Chi Phi must still pay a \$1500 fine, but the fraternity is now allowed to contact freshmen over the summer. "That was huge for us," said Sina Kevin Nazemi '03, Chi Phi's assistant rush chair at the time.

However, Chi Phi still cannot mail their rush book over the summer, but the fraternity can give the book to freshmen once they arrive on campus in the fall. In addition, Chi Phi still cannot host any events until rush begins in fall 2002.

While Chi Phi did not overturn much of the previous IFC ruling, Nazemi was satisfied nonetheless. "We're just happy it's over," Naze-

mi said. "Rush is just one part of the year, it's one part of our fraternity's activities; we're much bigger than just rush as a fraternity."

Earlier resolution attempt failed

Before this final appeal, the IFC and Chi Phi attempted to reach an agreement by working within the executive committee and the judicial committee. However, no agreement could be reached by the two sides. "We were never able to get people on the same page," said Rory P. Pfeiffer '02, last term's IFC president.

Pfeiffer was not directly involved in the final appeal, but he said that he tried to act as a "calming force" between the two sides. "We were trying to make everybody happy, but that's really not possible," Pfeiffer said.

David B. Gottlieb '04, a member of the IFC review board, chaired the

Chi Phi, Page 15



Additional
changes are
in store for
Lobby 7.

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OPINION

Dan Tortorice criticizes the
Senate's handling of President
Bush's economic stimulus bill.

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WORLD & NATION

Flight 587 Probe Finds Flaw In Tail Fin's Composite Material

LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON

Federal safety investigators said Tuesday they have discovered internal damage in the tail fin of the American Airlines jet that crashed last November in New York, but further testing is needed to determine if it occurred before or after the accident.

The National Transportation Safety Board said NASA scientists examining the 27-foot tail fin found that some layers of the advanced composite material used to build it had peeled apart from each other, a phenomenon known as "delamination." It was the first tentative indication of possible flaws in the material.

The tail fin of the Airbus A300 jet broke off shortly after takeoff from John F. Kennedy International Airport, and Flight 587 crashed into a nearby neighborhood, killing all 260 aboard and five people on the ground.

The crash was the first civil aviation disaster involving the failure of a major component built with composites, which are lighter and stronger than most metals. Composites are built of many layers of carbon fibers embedded in a special resin and molded together under heat and pressure. They lose their strength when delamination occurs.

Argentina to Seek 'Common Currency' With Brazil

THE WASHINGTON POST

BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA

Amid renewed public protests and violent attacks on foreign-owned banks, President Eduardo Duhalde declared Tuesday that Argentina would attempt to deepen ties within Latin America and confront the region's economic "domination" by the industrialized world.

In remarks that signaled a shift away from Argentina's decade-long stance as Washington's closest ally in South America, Duhalde called for the creation of a common currency with neighboring Brazil, and for a united front against "protectionist" U.S. trade barriers blocking Latin American agricultural exports.

During the 1990s, Argentina embraced U.S.-backed economic policies and received the coveted "non-NATO" ally status reserved for countries such as South Korea and Egypt. But Duhalde's comments Tuesday to foreign journalists appeared to foreshadow a challenge to Washington's economic interests in the region.

Analysts say the demands by Argentina and Brazil — the region's third-largest and largest economies, respectively — for a relaxed U.S. policy on agricultural imports are unlikely to be granted by Washington.

New Baggage Screening Measure To Begin Friday

LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON

As the airline industry scrambles to meet its first major security deadline, government and aviation officials said they do not anticipate major disruptions when new baggage screening measures go into effect Friday.

Transportation Secretary Norman Y. Mineta is scheduled to explain the new measures in a speech Wednesday. But the plan is only temporary, until a system for checking all bags with specialized explosive-detection machines can be put in place.

"The airlines have been particularly vocal about their preparedness, which indicates to me that they are expecting this to go smoothly," said Kevin Mitchell, chairman of the Business Travel Coalition, which monitors the industry. "There are probably some airports where they won't get it right on the first day, but, by and large, we will get through it."

U.S. Taliban Fighter Spared Death Penalty in Indictment

By Dan Eggen
and Brooke A. Masters
THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

John Walker Lindh, the restless Marin County, Calif., wanderer who journeyed halfway around the world to fight alongside the Taliban militia, was charged Tuesday with conspiring to kill U.S. citizens in Afghanistan and providing support to terrorist groups, including Osama bin Laden's al-Qaida network.

In outlining a case that could put Walker in prison for life, prosecutors also disclosed that Walker learned three months before the Sept. 11 terror attacks that bin Laden had sent operatives to the United States to carry out unspecified suicide missions, according to the criminal complaint filed in U.S. District Court in Alexandria, Va.

The current charges spare Walker the death penalty, but Attorney General John Ashcroft said prosecutors would continue to seek evidence to prove a capital offense such as treason.

Senior U.S. officials conceded, however, that they have been unsuccessful in directly linking Walker to the death of CIA agent Johnny Michael Spann, who was killed dur-

ing a bloody uprising at an Afghan prison compound shortly after interviewing the 20-year-old convert to radical Islam.

President Bush, who previously decided with his advisers to have the Justice Department prosecute Walker, signed off on the criminal complaint before it was filed Tuesday afternoon, sources said.

Ashcroft said in a news conference that the U.S. government "does not casually or capriciously charge one of its own citizens with providing support to terrorists," but that Walker "knowingly and purposefully allied himself with terror."

The charges indicate that Ashcroft and federal prosecutors intend to take a hard line in the prosecution of Walker, whose strange transformation from raving California teenager to unlikely jihad warrior has captivated the nation and prompted debate about parenting and permissiveness.

"We may never know why he turned his back on our country and our values, but we cannot ignore that he did," Ashcroft said. "Youth is not absolution for treachery, and personal self-discovery is not an excuse to take up arms against one's country."

In a statement released by their

attorney Tuesday, Walker's parents, Marilyn Walker and Frank Lindh, complained that their son had been held for 45 days by military authorities without contact from his family. They said they have not received confirmation that any of their letters to him have been received.

"We now hope that we will see our son soon and give him the love and support he needs," the statement said. "We are grateful to live in a nation that presumes innocence and withholds judgment until all of the facts are presented, and we pray for a just resolution of this case."

The filing of charges in Alexandria would bring Walker into the same court system where prosecutors are preparing to try Zacarias Moussaoui, the French national who is the only person in the United States charged in connection with the Sept. 11 attacks. Moussaoui, charged with conspiring with al-Qaida, could face the death penalty if convicted.

Two of the charges against Walker — conspiracy to kill U.S. nationals and providing material assistance to al-Qaida — carry maximum sentences of life in prison, according to Justice officials. The other two counts would bring penalties of 10 years in prison.

Americans Arrive in Philippines

U.S. Special Forces To Aid Filipino Army In Threatened Areas

By Steve Vogel

THE WASHINGTON POST

U.S. Special Forces have begun arriving in the Philippines to assist Philippine troops in their fight against Muslim guerrillas linked to Osama bin Laden, a significant expansion of the U.S. war on terrorism outside Afghanistan.

Although the deployment is a training exercise, the U.S. troops will accompany front-line Filipino forces on patrols in guerrilla-threatened areas in the southern Philippines. Approximately 650 U.S. soldiers, including 160 Special Forces, will take part in the exercise, defense officials said Tuesday.

"It is not a modest number, it's

several hundred plus," Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld said in an interview with radio journalists. "But it is a group of people that are going to be with the Philippine forces for the purpose of training."

Even as Pentagon officials say the focus of the war will remain on Afghanistan, the dispatch of several hundred U.S. troops to the Philippines underscores the Bush administration's intention to wage its fight against terrorism on a global scale.

Having put aside such targets as Iraq, at least for now, the administration is working with friendly governments such as the Philippines, Malaysia and Singapore that are seeking help in rooting out terrorist groups. It's also looking to such countries as Indonesia, Yemen and Somalia, where al-Qaida cells are believed to be located.

The U.S. forces moving to the Philippines will help the Philippine

army in the fight against Abu Sayyaf, a terrorist group that Washington says is linked to bin Laden, whose al-Qaida network is blamed for the Sept. 11 attacks against the United States.

"United States military trainers will be helping the Philippine government and Philippine armed forces to deal with the terrorist threat they have that affects their interests, as well as ours," Secretary of State Colin Powell said in an interview Tuesday with ABC News.

A shipment of weapons from the U.S., including automatic rifles and grenade launchers, arrived in the Philippines recently, part of a package of American military assistance.

Over the next 30 days, about 150 U.S. troops, primarily Army special forces, will arrive in the Philippines and begin accompanying Filipino forces on patrols on Basilan, a rugged, jungle-clad island that is a stronghold of Abu Sayyaf.

WEATHER

Winter Weather Still Absent

By Bill Ramstrom

STAFF METEOROLOGIST

A fast-moving series of small disturbances will keep our weather quite changeable over the next several days. In the near-term, there does not seem to be a prospect of a large snowstorm nor a cold outbreak.

Today, a high pressure system will be covering most of the eastern US, pushing yesterday's mixed bag of clouds and precipitation out over the Canadian Maritimes. Another weak storm will move across northern New England during Thursday; this will keep us on the warmer side of the storm so that precipitation will change over to rain. Fair weather will then settle in for Friday and most of Saturday.

Extended Forecast

Today: Becoming partly cloudy. High 40°F (4°C).

Tonight: Cloudy with light snow by morning. Low near 26°F (-3°C).

Thursday: Snow changing to rain during the day. High 40°F (4°C).

Thursday Night: Clearing and cooler. Low 27°F (-2°C).

Friday: Sunny and seasonable. High 39°F (3°C).

Weekend: Fair early Saturday, but a chance of snow Saturday night. Clearing Sunday.

Situation for Noon Eastern Standard Time, Wednesday, January 16, 2002



Weather Systems	Weather Fronts	Precipitation Symbols	Other Symbols
H High Pressure	--- Trough	Snow: * (light), ** (moderate), *** (heavy)	☁ Fog
L Low Pressure	— Warm Front	Rain: ▽ (light), ▽ (moderate), ▽ (heavy)	⚡ Thunderstorm
S Hurricane	▲ Cold Front		☁ Haze
	— Stationary Front		

Compiled by MIT
Meteorology Staff
and The Tech

Firm Fires Executive, Places Three on Leave in Enron Case

By James T. Madore

NEWSDAY

The accounting firm Arthur Andersen Tuesday fired the executive it said had ordered the destruction of documents about Enron Corp. when he learned of a federal investigation of the troubled energy company.

David B. Duncan, who supervised the auditing of Enron's financial statements as lead partner in Andersen's Houston office, directed his staff to shred piles of documents and delete thousands of e-mails, the accounting firm said in a statement. The disposal began Oct. 23 after Duncan allegedly learned that Enron had received a request for information from the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Andersen also placed three other Houston partners on administrative leave Tuesday and stripped four more of their management authority in a clear attempt to distance itself from the document destruction. But legal and accounting experts said the Chicago-based firm's admissions only served to spark new

questions about its role.

"This is a startling disclosure ... a bunch of flags now are raised about criminal liability on the part of Arthur Andersen," said Robert R. Rigg, a criminal law professor at Drake University in Des Moines, Iowa. "The SEC and Justice Department will be all over this."

Enron declared bankruptcy in December — the biggest bankruptcy in U.S. corporate history — and its plunging stock price devastated the retirement accounts of thousands of its employees. The energy company was forced to restate five years' worth of revenues and profits, prompting a search for blame that has become a hot political and legal issue stretching from Houston to Chicago to Washington to New York, where the bankruptcy was filed.

Duncan, the executive singled out by Andersen's top brass, could meet with congressional investigators looking into the Enron debacle as early as Wednesday. "We have a meeting with him set up with our investigators," Ken Johnson,

spokesman for the House Energy and Commerce Committee, said Tuesday night. "Now that he has been fired, he may have a little more motivation to cooperate with us." Duncan had turned over six boxes of documents to the committee but so far refused to be interviewed.

Andersen said the destruction of documents was "on such a scale and of such a nature as to remove any doubt that Andersen's policies and reasonable good judgment were violated."

The firm's investigators also reportedly found that the shredding of Enron documents continued until Nov. 9, a day after Andersen was ordered by the SEC to turn over information about its dealings with Enron. In fact, the documents' disposal had started about a week before the SEC launched a formal probe of Enron.

Experts said the revelations by Andersen raised the specter that the 89-year-old accounting firm — one of the industry's so-called Big Five — purposely attempted to interfere with a federal investigation.

Administration to Push Forward With Lawsuit Over Clean Air Act

By Elizabeth Shogren

LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON

After an eight-month review, the Bush administration announced Tuesday that it will proceed with lawsuits filed by the Clinton administration against polluting power companies because the lawsuits are consistent with the Clean Air Act.

"The department takes seriously its obligation to enforce the laws protecting our nation's environment," Attorney General John Ashcroft said in a statement.

However, a senior Justice Department official acknowledged that the 10 power companies are unlikely to settle the cases before the Environmental Protection Agency announces its expected weakening of the rules that are central to the lawsuits.

At issue is whether the utilities broke the law by making modifications to their facilities that significantly increased pollution.

The so-called new-source review provision of the 1970 Clean Air Act

requires companies to install modern pollution-control devices when building new plants or modifying existing ones. The Bush administration, however, has been working on changes to the rules that would make them more acceptable to industry.

"Today's announcement only reinforces my puzzlement over why the administration is about to undermine the very same laws they are prosecuting," said John Walke, director of the clean air program for Natural Resources Defense Council, an environmental organization.

Indeed, the Electric Reliability Coordinating Council, which represents several of the targeted utilities, said the government's decision to pursue the cases does not necessarily bode ill for the council's clients.

Scott Segal, an attorney who is a spokesman for the council, suggested that the EPA could have difficulty prevailing in the cases if the underlying regulations are changed.

The fate of these highly technical regulations and the lawsuits filed to enforce them could have immense

implications for air quality, particularly in the Northeast. Changes to the rules will be viewed by environmentalists as a measure of how far the administration is willing to go to satisfy the concerns of industry.

A weakening of the regulations, which dictate what changes businesses must make to their facilities to reduce pollution, is unlikely to render the lawsuits moot, but it could result in settlements that are more favorable for the utilities.

Settlement terms are likely to be based on the requirements of rules in force when the settlement is reached, rather than when the lawsuit was filed, according to a senior Justice Department official, who spoke on the condition of anonymity.

The utilities targeted in the lawsuits include Illinois Power Co. and Dynegy Midwest Generation, Southern Indiana Gas and Electric Co., American Electric Power Service Corp., Ohio Edison Co., Georgia Power and Savannah Electric & Power Co., Alabama Power Co., and Duke Energy Corp.

High Court Rules EEOC Can Ignore Agreements Made Under Arbitration

By Charles Lane

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

The Supreme Court ruled Tuesday that the federal agency in charge of fighting job discrimination may sue an employer for alleged violations of an employee's civil rights, seeking damages for an employee even when the employee has agreed to submit job disputes to arbitration.

By a vote of 6-3, the court held that a federal law designed to encourage arbitration as an alternative to litigation does not impinge on the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission's authority to fight legal battles when employees claim on-the-job bias.

Writing for the court, Justice John Paul Stevens noted that the EEOC itself is not a party to the arbitration agreement at issue, and that nothing in federal law "authorizes a court to compel arbitration of any issues, or by any parties, that are not already covered in the agreement."

Tuesday's decision is especially important because it comes after a ruling last year in which the court said that an employee's signature on a job contract containing an arbitration agreement waives the employee's right to go to court on his or her own behalf.

Now, however, employers may still be deterred from illegal discrimination by the costly prospect of being taken to court by the EEOC. Under the ruling Tuesday, the EEOC will be able to seek not only a court order requiring an employer to stop any illegal activity, but also back pay, punitive damages and other individualized relief for a worker.

"Punitive damages benefit the individual employee (and) they also serve an obvious public function in deterring future violations," Stevens noted.

The stakes in the case were high for employees-rights advocates, who feared that a ruling against the EEOC in this case, *EEOC v. Waffle House*, No. 99-1823, would have

given employers an easy way to get around all but the mildest legal remedies for discrimination under federal civil rights law.

"This means the enforcement scheme of the civil rights statutes is still in place," said Thomas Osbourne of the AARP Foundation, which filed a friend-of-the-court brief in support of the EEOC. "If it had gone the other way, you'd have enforcement of public law in private hands."

In dissent, Justice Clarence Thomas, joined by Chief Justice William Rehnquist and Justice Antonin Scalia, said that the majority ruling "eviscerates (the employee's) arbitration agreement with Waffle House and liberates (him) from the consequences of his agreement."

Thomas, a former chairman of the EEOC, suggested that the ruling would give employees two chances to win money — at arbitration and in an EEOC lawsuit — a result, he said, that would undo much of what the court did in its decision last year.

Chretien Overhauls Cabinet In Wake of Surprise Resignation

LOS ANGELES TIMES

OTTAWA

Canadian Prime Minister Jean Chretien overhauled his Cabinet on Tuesday, dismissing seven ministers and bringing 10 new faces into the government just one day after the country was stunned by the resignation of a popular Cabinet member who had been Chretien's presumptive heir.

The restructuring was the most significant development yet in the unofficial but quite public race to succeed Chretien as head of the Liberal Party when — or rather if, as skeptics here say — the long-serving prime minister decides to retire, political analysts here say.

The shake-up also reflects the changed political environment in Canada four months after the terror attacks in the United States, with much greater emphasis on domestic security and military preparedness than in recent decades.

Brian Tobin, a garrulous and ambitious Newfoundlander who had served as minister of industry until he abruptly announced Monday that he was quitting Parliament, had long been considered Chretien's preferred successor but had been eclipsed by Cabinet rivals in recent months.

Tobin, who said he was leaving government for family reasons, may have preferred to resign rather than lose his undeclared campaign for the party leadership, Canadian political commentators said.

Palestinian Gunmen Kill Two Near Jerusalem

THE WASHINGTON POST

JERUSALEM

Palestinian gunmen shot two Israelis to death near Jerusalem Tuesday, including one, an elderly American citizen, who was kidnapped in his car, taken to a field and murdered.

The shootings, both of them in the West Bank, were a further sign of the collapse of a ceasefire proclaimed by Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat in a televised speech Dec. 16.

After one of the quietest three-week periods since violence erupted here in September 2000, death and bloodshed is quickening again, and all three major Palestinian armed militant groups have announced they will no longer observe the ceasefire.

Prime Minister Ariel Sharon told a group of visiting American congressmen Tuesday evening that the second Israeli killed, a 45-year-old motorist sprayed with bullets as she turned into a gas station, was also an American passport-holder. However, Israeli police and army spokesmen could not confirm that.

The Palestinians blamed Israel for the escalation, citing the killing of a prominent gunman, Raed Karmi, who died when a remote-control bomb exploded Monday outside his hideout in the West Bank town of Tulkarm. Karmi acknowledged killing two Israelis a year ago in Tulkarm, and Israel blamed him for the murders of seven other Israelis.

Rights Group Reports Deadly 'Operations' Aimed at Chechens

LOS ANGELES TIMES

MOSCOW

Russia's leading human rights group says it has documented the apparent killing of three men and the disappearance of six others during a Russian "special operation" in Chechnya over the New Year's holiday.

"As interviews with local residents make clear, the special operation was carried out with the crudest violations of human rights and the law," the chairman of the group Memorial, Oleg Orlov, wrote in a letter to Vsevolod Chernov, the chief prosecutor of the separatist republic. Memorial released the letter alleging actions in the village of Tsotsin-Yurt to news organizations Tuesday.

In addition, Orlov said Russian forces detained massive numbers of local residents, most of whom complained that they were insulted and humiliated by the soldiers. About 80 residents said they were "cruelly beaten" during their detentions, which took place between Dec. 30 and Jan. 3.

Russian soldiers continued firing at suspected rebels even after being informed that civilians were in the line of fire, according to information collected by Memorial, and used two detainees as "human shields" during the battle. Witnesses said that the two men were still alive when the battle ended but that their bodies turned up shortly afterward near the local military headquarters.

U.N. Documents Show Russia As Iraq's Top Importer

SPECIAL TO THE WASHINGTON POST

UNITED NATIONS

Six months after Russia blocked a U.S. effort to overhaul U.N. sanctions against Iraq, Moscow has emerged as Baghdad's largest importer, according to U.N. diplomats.

Russian companies have signed more than \$4 billion in business deals with Baghdad as part of a 1996 arrangement that allows Iraq to sell oil to purchase food, medicine and other humanitarian supplies. In the last six months, Russia concluded more than \$1.4 billion in trade under the U.N. program, surpassing Egypt and France as Iraq's top importers during the past five years, the diplomats said, citing confidential U.N. figures.

The expanding trade relationship is the product of a long-standing Iraqi policy of rewarding companies from countries that help it circumvent an 11-year-old U.N. embargo imposed after its 1990 invasion of Kuwait. It poses a major challenge for U.S. diplomats seeking Moscow's support for a plan to strengthen sanctions against Baghdad.

Iraq exported nearly \$30 billion in high-quality crude to refineries in the United States, Europe and Asia over the past two years. Although the proceeds from Iraq's oil revenue are controlled by the United Nations, Baghdad retains the authority to choose its trade partners.

OPINION

An Imperfect Solution to Crowding

No one knows exactly how MIT's housing system will work next year, with all freshmen living on campus for the first time in Institute history. But at least one aspect of on-campus housing can already be foreseen — MIT will need more on-campus beds for undergraduates than it can currently provide, even with Simmons Hall.

Chancellor Phillip L. Clay PhD '75 proposed last week that MIT use graduate housing for undergraduates, risking graduate student anger. However, this represents the best available option — reducing enrollment, leasing more housing, or allowing the crowding situation to continue are not viable options. Still, Clay is gathering community feedback before making a final decision, which is certainly a welcome change from recent MIT practice.

The current crowding situation is unacceptable. Clay found that over 400 undergraduates now live in crowded rooms, while others are affected indirectly. MacGregor House residents, for example, have lost many lounges to crowded doubles. Recent increases in freshman class yield have only aggravated the crisis.

While the administration cannot be blamed entirely for increased class sizes, it is certainly at fault for allowing crowding to get out of hand. By requiring freshmen to live on campus, MIT is raising the demand for beds without accordingly increasing supply. Crowding was a problem long before breaking ground on Simmons; the building could have easily been designed to house more than 350 students without crowds.

Since the freshmen-on-campus policy seems immutable, Clay is right to favor reallocating graduate beds to undergraduates, but this is an imperfect, temporary solution at best. This fall, MIT will face the "big crunch" of freshmen without FSILGs, making next year's housing especially tight.

Clay estimates that such a solution could last three to five years, thus putting further strain on the graduate population and making MIT less attractive to prospective graduate students. Hopefully, spring rush for the FSILGs will reduce the number of students living on campus, and the beds will be returned to graduate students in the fall of 2003. Accordingly, Clay's plan should be reevaluated next spring, based on the success of rush.

If graduate student housing is to be used for undergraduates, we recommend Tang Hall. Clay should not use beds from the new dormitory at Sidney and Pacific Streets, simply because it is too far from campus and too isolated from the rest of the undergraduate community. Tang, on the other hand, is located along the row of undergraduate dormitories on Amherst Street. Furthermore, MIT needs to start planning its next undergraduate dormitory right away, rather than waiting another twenty years as it did between building Next House and Simmons Hall. MIT also needs to clarify which situations count as "crowded" in order to better understand the scope of the problem — some students may already be in crowded rooms without knowing, or even caring.

By mandating that freshmen live on campus, MIT undertook a great responsibility to guarantee undergraduate living space. Ample dormitory rooms will help to attract graduate students and ensure that the freshmen-on-campus policy does not become a burden on the student body.

Letters To The Editor

...When They Come For You

Recently my attention was brought to an article in *The Tech* entitled "Student Arrested After Chase" [Dec. 11, 2000]. I am an acquaintance of the student, Ms. Bostick, who was arrested and I was also surprised to hear what had happened.

However, I was more alarmed by the safety tips given by Police Officer Clifford Connolly of the Boston Police. I'm not saying these safety tips are wrong. They are valid, but very insufficient; especially since we are talking about the New Jersey Turnpike which has been under scrutiny in recent years for racial profiling of motorists by law enforcement officers. I'm sure some of us remember the nationwide attention about the four minorities in the van on the NJ Turnpike who were pulled over. When their van began to roll backwards, the trooper fired 11 shots into the van injuring three of them. The *Tech* article includes a brief testimony from a native to the area about an officer convicted of illegal sexual acts and the fear some locals have for some of the officers. These are not small problems in New Jersey, and other areas for that matter. Officers do violate their own job guidelines and regulations.

So in following Officer Connolly's safety tips, what should you do in the event that an officer may overreact or step outside of the guidelines and regulations of being a law enforcement officer? Suppose you are uncomfortable and decide you want to be escorted to a marked car or police station. Suppose you would like to see a badge? What should you do if the officer refuses? Some may say the officer won't refuse, but this is true only if the officer is acting within the guidelines of what they are supposed to do. Officer Connolly states that if the officer refuses, you can drive yourself to the station and explain it. How do you do so without this being mistaken for driving off and how do you do this if you are not "free to leave" under law. What happens if an officer (or more than one officer) approaches the car with a gun drawn and/or demands that you get out of the car? Something I really could not quite understand is when the officer

advises one to call 911 if they feel the person is not a real trooper. With what phone are you going to do this? Will the officer permit you to go to a pay phone or call box first to get verification before finishing writing the summons? Or will the officer allow you to reach for your cell phone, without mistaking the action as reaching for a weapon? Officer Connolly states that a marked car and a uniform and badge should be enough verification that that the officer is genuine, but once again, what happens if there is an abuse of power? Connolly states that if you drive off, the reason had better be good. What are examples of valid reasons? Is an officer's misconduct a valid reason? Is being being alone and surrounded by several officers a reason to fear for your safety? I'm not disagreeing with the officer when he says you should not drive away. You absolutely should not drive away when pulled over by an officer. I do have a problem with the safety tips. They are one-sided and don't take into account what threats are posed by possible wrongdoing on the part of the officer(s).

I write this letter earnestly, because I feel more citizens, no matter who they may be, should know what to do in situations like a traffic stop. These safety tips need a little more elaboration. They are a bit on the vague side.

William M. Morgan Jr.
MIT Class of '00

Racial Profiling In the Library?

If you were studying in the MIT Humanities Library the night of Tuesday, Dec. 11, around 10 p.m., you would have looked up and seen a Middle Eastern-looking man hauled out of there by three cops.

If you were curious, like me, you would have gone out of the room, into the stairwell, and listened while the cops handcuffed and interrogated the man, accusing him of stealing the backpack he was carrying and of holding someone else's credit card.

When he finally spoke, the man said softly, "I don't understand what I've done." "Are you a student here?"

"No, not right now, but I..."

"Then you can't be on the property."

"But plenty of people who aren't students use this library. I don't understand what makes me special."

"You can't be here. Talk to Dean ... [I forget the name] about getting you back home. Does that make sense to you?"

"Dean who? I don't see what I've done wrong."

A fourth cop showed up, and they took the man downstairs, where, according to a librarian, one of them cracked, "Your ride's here."

When a librarian asked a policeman what had happened, he made vague allusions to bad things the guy had done before, and that he wasn't allowed on the premises. That may be true. But during the time I witnessed the police interrogating him, they made no reference to a criminal history. They simply asked him if he was a student. He said, "No." They told him he couldn't be on the property.

That is simply not the policy of the library. Visitors are allowed; they just have to sign-in. As a non-student and regular visitor, I should know. Even if I snuck into Harvard's library, however, as a white American I couldn't imagine being handcuffed and taken away by four policemen.

What I'm left thinking, with a sense of collective embarrassment for all Americans who have allowed this climate to seize the country, is that this was nothing but the same racial profiling and harassment that is taking place all over the country.

If you were a good activist, you would have said something to the cops, such as, "What has he done wrong? He's right, non-students are allowed to use the library." If you were a wuss, like me, you would have stood silently and watched them lead this man, humiliated, out of the building.

Needless to say, this was shocking for me to see. I have traveled in a lot of countries where this would not have been shocking, but I have never had this feeling here. Pathetic to say, but I think the reason I said nothing was simple fear.

I've called the MIT police several times to get the full story, but my calls have gone unreturned.

Brendan Cooney

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Black Bars and Belly Buttons

Philip Burrowes

Some people would have you think television stations are morally obligated to censor their own shows. These people believe that the influence television exercises over society demands that its influence be as positive as possible. Whether or not this is true — not as simple a question as one might think — there are clearly forms of censorship that work in this regard and forms that do not. Demanding that an actress be clothed over her belly button, as they did in the days of “I Dream of Jeanie,” for example, is more effective than editing a small black bar around a navel. In other words, it is one thing to prohibit an action and it is another thing to edit out the action in a way that still allows the viewer to know what is going on. Yet music videos have been doing the latter for years.

Nowhere is this more egregious than in the video for “Part II,” a song off the soundtrack to the Method Man and Redman movie *How High*. A cable station which shall remain nameless blanks the word “high” in the song’s chorus, but only sometimes. Said hook (and the song’s background) is partially taken from the Toni Braxton song “Making Me High” — a song concerning men and masturbation, not marijuana — with Toni beginning “I get so high.” Meth’s subsequent warning of getting “high off your own supply” has both “high” and “supply” silenced. Braxton continues “I can touch the sky,” but when Meth follows with “So high that...” it is again quieted. Finally, the refrain’s end of the rappers saying “Let’s get” and Braxton ringing in “high” is removed so all the listener hears is the beat.

Of course it can be rationalized that the “high” at the beginning of the song does not suggest smoking until it is placed in the context of “supply.” By the same token, once the song is placed in the context of it being by Method Man and Redman (note that this is “Part II”) it should be obvious. Furthermore, consider that it is off the soundtrack of a motion picture with the premise — besides the running joke that Harvard is too uptight — that marijuana is a panacea. The

vast majority of people watching the video will know this, so bleeping any part of the song does little to affect the public’s already attained desensitization. Perhaps it is a warning to the artists, but if they went far enough to make a film purporting (and profitably so) weed as an all-purpose herbal remedy, some video editing will little dissuade them.

“High” is not the only recent target of this ineffective strategy. “Ecstasy” was excised in “Cash, Money, Cars” by Ruff Endz. “Crack” was censored from “We

Missy Elliot made a mini-video of “4 My People,” she was able to seamlessly substitute “American” for “ecstasy,” which should give you a hint of its original context. Such lyrics overlook the consequences of substance abuse, either because of ignorance on the part of artists or, even worse, apathy. The concern, however, cannot solely be drug-related.

Conceptions of drugs are simply not dictated by music (of that form, anyway). Offhand I couldn’t name a single song in 2000 that mentioned ecstasy. While I can name several from 2001, the actual jump in teenage use — according to the recently released NIH-funded study “Monitoring the Future” — was lowest since its popularity jump before the turn of the century. In fact more 12th graders are associating risk with experimentation than ever before on record. To think this will be reversed because Ja Rule claims to keep women “drugged up off that ecstasy” in “Always on Time” misses the problem; that’s just a reprehensible line to put in a song.

By keeping drugs taboo, music television allows artists to convey a certain feeling simply by mentioning a random substance, freeing musicians from having to craft truly substantive messages. Yes, it is unfortunate that a video audience may be presented with the idea that drug use is something more than hedonism, but it’s far worse that general music quality is decreasing as sales increase.

Each of the artists I’ve mentioned has gotten away with multiple hits (yes, even Afroman). If a network feels people are incapable of deciding not to watch videos which mention, let alone showcase drugs, then it should feel compelled to do more than snip out “objectionable” material (which it can’t do properly anyway). Where are the attempts to prevent music like that from becoming popular? Or how about addressing the musicians’ own conceptions of drug use rather than doing their own work for them? As it is now, video censorship is merely a superficial attempt at addressing a deeper issue.

If a network feels people are incapable of deciding not to watch videos which mention, let alone showcase drugs, then it should feel compelled to do more than snip out “objectionable” material, which it can’t do properly anyway.

Thuggin’” by Fat Joe and R. Kelly. “Drug” itself and “dealers” were deleted from Ludacris’ “Southern Hospitality.” If I had the patience to sit through all the Puffy (I don’t care what he wants to be called) and Jay-Z videos which came out last year, I could find many more instances. This is all from a network that still managed to air Afroman’s “Cuz I Got High.”

What really renders this strategy impotent is not the lack of coordination within a given network, but throughout the entire music playing industry. To illustrate this, consider that Jammin’ 94.5 FM played D12’s “Purple Hills” with “acid” references intact, but even the toned down video version which replaced it with “Tums” was banned from some television programs. By themselves, lyrics need not suggest either the use of or abstinence from drugs. However, once a song is aired, listeners would know what was censored and it may make the word more pronounced, paradoxically reinforcing what was removed.

All this is to say it is indeed a concern, that the prevalence of drugs in popular music is a problem. It is a largely one-sided story, one of profitability and glory. When

The Monolith Movie

Tao Yue

2001 has come and gone. Though I certainly would like to take part in the flood of retrospectives that comes at the beginning of any new year, I find myself strangely unable to do so. For one, I do not know where to begin.

So many topics, so many interconnections, too many dilemmas. Some people may have sorted it all out, but personally, I will wait a few years and look at it from the viewpoint of a historian rather than a journalist.

There is, however, one small, neglected topic where the facts, if not the reasons, are clear-cut. That is the strange saga of the re-release of Stanley Kubrick’s masterpiece film, 2001: A Space Odyssey.

As its namesake year approached, the film worked its way back into popular culture. Everywhere one could hear the strains of the classical piece adopted by the film as its signature theme: Richard Strauss’ “Also Sprach Zarathustra.” Advertisements took on a space-oriented theme, making fun of the monolith that figured so prominently in the film. Columnists adopted a new favorite topic: comparing the innovations imagined in the film to present-day technologies.

It would seem logical, then, for Warner Brothers, the studio which bought a substantial portion of MGM’s library and is now the copyright holder of 2001: A Space Odyssey, to participate in the recent frenzy of restorations, re-releases, and director’s cuts (listed in decreasing order of respectability). These have made an incredible amount of money, perhaps because so

many current movies are awful. The 1997 Special Edition of the original *Star Wars* trilogy, featuring a Greedo who shot first, brought in \$461 million in domestic box offices for Episode IV alone. The 1998 restoration of *Gone With the Wind*, which suffered from blurry images and color fringing, brought in \$199 million.

Despite criticisms, though, at least the films were released. They also required a fair amount of money, substantial though insignificant compared to digital effects budgets for films like *Lord of the Rings*, to repair damage and fading of the negatives. But 2001: A Space Odyssey requires neither. Because of Stanley Kubrick’s famous perfectionism, the film was stored in a proper archive, unlike most films which slowly turned to vinegar in stuffy, non-air-condi-

While film buffs waited and waited for a re-release of ‘2001,’ Warner Brothers was silent. Then in September came the sudden announcement that an extremely limited run of the film would be made. Why?

tioned warehouses. The film is in near-perfect condition, and required almost no work before prints could be struck.

Finally, it happened. But only for limited release in the United Kingdom. A few festivals in the United States showed 2001 for special events, such as New Year’s Day, 2001. However, while film buffs waited and waited for a general, or even limited, release, Warner Brothers was silent.

Then in September came the sudden announcement that an extremely limited run of the film would be made, showing in four premier venues. These were places where there’s a curtain in front of the screen, where

an actual human devotes all his attention to one film, not twenty-four like at a multiplex; where epic movies are treated as well as live theater. The Seattle Cinerama was bought and restored by overshadowed Microsoft co-founder Paul Allen, while the Uptown in Washington, D.C. has not been quite so lucky. Despite those problems, all four theaters tried their best, doing everything possible to make sure the film was presented correctly. All four runs were an enormous success, making it possible for thousands to see the film on the big screen.

Then it was announced that Loew’s Astor Plaza in New York City would get a second copy of the film. The film arrived amid eager anticipation. Then, it was abused. The intermission, which comes at an important dramatic point and was designed to allow the audience to think, was chopped out of the film.

Lack of attention scratched it so badly that it looked worse after two weeks than many movies do after three months. The sound system was not calibrated, leading to warbling. To save costs, a projectionist was brought in only on Fridays, leaving an usher to push buttons to run the film and switch over to a backup when something went wrong. Obviously, with nobody there to take care of the film, something did go wrong, several times, and the backup had to be run.

Why did Warner Brothers wait while everyone around them was taking advantage of the year 2001 to advertise the film for them, then release it when the year was almost over and the side promotion had ended? Allow four theaters to worship it, and one to ignore it?

One thing is for sure — this story will only get more interesting. A significant number of very vocal people will keep pushing Warner Brothers to do a more general release of the film. In the coming year, whenever you get tired of pondering great world issues, well, here’s something less weighty to think about.

The Senate’s Recess Time

Dan Tortorice

If you followed the events leading up to the most recent Congressional recess, you might have very well asked yourself what the heck is going on. First, Congress informed us that the billion-dollar budget surplus was completely gone, and we were back to the days of budget deficits. Then Senate Majority Leader Tom Daschle made the indefensible claim that our current recession was worsened by Bush’s recent tax cut. In response our President said Congress would raise taxes “over his dead body.”

Next, the Senate leadership under Daschle proceeded to block a vote on the economic stimulus bill passed by the House. In the end, our Congressmen went home to their families for winter recess, giving no aid to the American people as they confront this recession.

It’s fitting that Congress’ break is called a recess, because the Democratic leaders in the Senate are behaving like a bunch of children. Constantly we heard the leadership discuss the tax cut despite it already being law. When they should have been discussing the issues at hand, they were content to complain about a political battle they had fought and lost — and lost quite handily, with twelve Senate Democrats voting for the tax cut. This is not to say the Democrats’ anger at the passage of the tax cut isn’t justified, but to say that the Senate leadership would have better served the American people by hashing out an economic stimulus bill than by pouting about a lost political battle.

To make things worse, the Senate’s Democratic leadership then asked us to believe that the tax cut worsened the recession. Anyone who has studied a page of macroeconomics would know that the best cure for a recession is to pump money into the economy. This is what the tax cut did, albeit not in the most efficient way. Daschle and his fellow leaders lose credibility when they ask us to believe that cutting taxes has a contractionary effect on the economy.

The pouting and asinine economic theorizing is not in itself contemptible. What’s contemptible is how these attitudes prevented a vote on an economic stimulus bill. The U.S. economy is not in good shape. The economy contracted in the third quarter of 2001 and most economists expect to see an even sharper contraction to the end the year. The unemployment rate has climbed to 5.8 percent. It’s a sick economy in need of medicine. But Daschle, still miffed about the tax cut and not wanting Bush to score another political victory, failed to even schedule a vote on the stimulus bill that passed the House. In doing so he prevented even minimal aid to our economy. In times of recession the government usually extends unemployment benefits past the normal 12 to 26 week period a claimant is allowed to collect for. This was a much-needed measure in this recession, but because of Daschle’s obstructionism, those people who have lost their jobs will soon find themselves without a source of income. These people can’t wait until Congress comes back from its recess.

The Senate leadership needs to grow up. It needs to realize that America is in need of help. It needs its leadership to stop its childish political games and enact effective legislation to soothe the impact of this recession.

This recent action by the Democratic leadership, though, is part of a political strategy that has recently lead to substantial Democratic political losses. The Democrats have long relied upon voters seeing the Republican Party as the party of big business and the wealthy. And for a very good reason: that is the real Republican constituency. However, despite this reality, voter perspective is changing. Bush succeeded in selling his tax cut as a tax cut for all. Average Americans voted for him because he promised to give them money, even though he was clearly going to give much more money to wealthy Americans. The fact that Republicans are looking out for the interests of the wealthy is no longer enough to prevent the average American from voting Republican. The Senate leadership has not learned this lesson.

In the stimulus fight, they have again tried to portray the Republicans as enemies of the common man, arguing that no economic stimulus was better than the Republican-proposed stimulus, but the average American will not see it this way. With surging popularity for Bush, the average American will say that yes, as with the tax cut, the wealthy will benefit greatly from the stimulus package, but hey, we will benefit too, and we’d rather have this than nothing. They will see the Democrats as blocking the very help they need, blocking their unemployment benefits, and being inert in a time which called for decisive action.

THE ARTS

MOVIE REVIEW ★★

A Little Polishing Gone too Far

'Orange County.' No Fruit Jokes Here



Lance (Jack Black) prepares to "pull a McGyver" in *Orange County*.

By Dan Robey

ASSOCIATE ARTS EDITOR

Directed by Jake Kasdan

Written by Mike White

Starring Colin Hanks, Jack Black

Rated PG-13

Orange County is not the typical teen movie. Then again, it is. A smooth mix of teen comedy and drama, *Orange County* is too smooth at times.

Shaun Brumder (Colin Hanks) is a high school senior from Orange County. Feeling underwhelmed by his surfer-dude lifestyle, he comes across a book washed up on the beach which changes his life. After reading it obsessively, he decides to devote his life to writing. He gives up surfing to pursue his dream of getting into Stanford and working with Marcus Skinner, the author of the book he found on the beach.

Shaun's guidance counselor accidentally sends another student's transcript to Stanford, effectively halving his GPA and SAT

scores. Needless to say, he is rejected, and he is forced to resort to get help from his chemically enhanced brother, Lance (Jack Black).

Lance didn't go to college, and is, to quote Shaun, "perpetually recovering from the night before." He has an impressive collection of pill bottles, the organizational scheme of which is always in a state of flux. From his first moment on-screen, we sense that Lance is a good natured person, whose plans are constantly foiled by his habits of excess.

Lance, Shaun, and his girlfriend drive to Stanford to contact the dean there and explain the situation to him. Lance goes for the James Bond approach, while Shaun and his girlfriend look up the deans residence in the phone book.

In the end, a fateful meeting between Shaun and his idol, Marcus Skinner, gives Shaun the guidance he so desperately needs to decide what is right for his life.

Although *Orange County* has the mandatory gags and antics of teen movies, includ-

ing near-ingestion of bodily fluids, accidental druggings, and meddlesome friends, it also has chords of deeper qualities. The characters, though stereotypical at times, have actual dimension. Even with standard teen gags, there is clever comedy lurking about the movie. In one scene, a funeral for a surfer, all the attendees are dressed in black bikinis and board shorts.

Jack Black makes the movie what it is. His brand of comedy succeeds in adding a few poignant moments to the movie. He is also the driving force behind most of the storyline. As much as Shaun thinks his brother is a deadbeat, we see that he really cares for Shaun, and would do anything to help.

Even more frightening is the drama under the comedy. The classic tale of a youth coming to grips with his birthplace combined with coming of age blends surprisingly well with the comedy. The package borders on being too slick. Lines are delivered at the exact moment they are needed, and visual gags work too well. In polishing the movie, it seems to have lost much of its edge.

Subplots abound, adding to the delicate weave of the movie. The other stories are never enough to disrupt the movie, and in the end draw it even into an even tighter storyline. Divorced parents find their new lives lacking something, Shaun's girlfriend feels that if he goes to Stanford it will be the end of their relationship. All these sketches of stories combine to form a cleanly directed movie.

In fact, the only real flaw in the movie, aside from the fact they play Crazytown's "Butterfly" over and over and over, is that it is such a cleanly woven story. The storyline flows too smoothly. No real surprises happen along the way, and in many places, I felt as if I was just drifting with the current. All the jokes have been seen before, the story has been heard before. The package is the only thing that has changed.

Orange County is a slick, stylish teen movie. The gags and storyline will provide two hours of enjoyment, but it lacks the kick that might make it memorable. While it might have been poignant, *Orange County* is too polished to truly resonate.

You Don't Have Class



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VIDEO GAME REVIEW

FFX: the Final Say in Fantasy

Latest Adventure Marks Series Debut on PlayStation 2 Console

By Sandra Chung

ASSOCIATE ARTS EDITOR

Squaresoft's *Final Fantasy* series is an institution in the world of role-playing video games. Engrossing storylines, vivid characters, and addictive gameplay established the popularity and reputation of the series on the first two Nintendo consoles, the Nintendo Game Boy, the Sony PlayStation, and the PC. *Final Fantasy X* is the latest installment in the series and the first created exclusively for the PlayStation 2. *FFX* embroiders classic father versus son, spirituality versus technology, and good versus evil conflicts into a story of love, friendship, and hope in a richly detailed world.

Spira, the world of *FFX*, is an odd mixture of medieval weaponry, magic, mythology, and modern Japanese style. Spira is overshadowed by Sin, an enormous monster that brings death and destruction. The religion of the land considers the aptly named beast divine punishment for the overuse of machina, or technology. Summoners, a group of gifted beings who have the ability to control powerful creatures called aeons, undergo an arduous pilgrimage in hopes of obtaining the Final Aeon, the only force that can defeat Sin and bring temporary peace to Spira. Caught in a depressing cycle of death and fear, the people of Spira turn to blitzball, a wildly popular game akin to underwater soccer, as their chief entertainment.

The story centers around Tidus, a star blitzball player who survives a massive catastrophe only to be swept into an unfamiliar

world. He is rescued from the sea by the Al Bhed, a seafaring desert people who speak a strange language (which the player can decode by finding Al Bhed 'primers' throughout the game). After another disaster he washes up on the Isle of Besaid, where Wakka, the goofy, loyalty-inspiring leader of the local blitzball team, recruits him for a tournament. Wakka is also one of the guardians of Yuna, a young summoner at the beginning of her pilgrimage, and events at the blitzball tournament make it clear that Wakka's place — and Tidus' — is with Yuna on her journey across Spira for the Final Aeon.

With *FFX*, Squaresoft leaves no doubts about its ability to exploit the processing power of the 128-bit PlayStation 2. Ample cut scene and motion capture footage accompany breathtakingly beautiful backdrops and expressive, detailed characters. Characters move and fight in a wholly three-dimensional world, with smooth changes in perspective (completely out of the player's control and sometimes rapid and confusing, unfortunately). The score, too, lives up to high *Final Fantasy* standards, with longtime *FF* composer Nobuo Uematsu returning to channel Spira's morbid beauty with elegant, morose piano themes and a love song, "Suteki Dane" ("Isn't It Beautiful").

Final Fantasy X is the first game in the series to include voice acting for all the main characters and several minor figures. Voices are the final step in bringing the series' fantastic characters to life. Wakka's hilarious antics and Lulu's dry comments color cut scenes, world map conversations, and battles

in a way that text alone never has. However, the voice talent is not remarkable; Wakka is the standout.

With soundtrack, voices, and lengthy cut scenes, *Final Fantasy X* often has the feel of a motion picture. None of the boss battles are particularly difficult, and players may be annoyed to find themselves watching more than doing. The first 90% of the game is largely story-driven and doesn't allow for side quests or backtracking. However, the game opens up considerably just before the final battle, once the ubiquitous *Final Fantasy* airship is under the player's control.

Squaresoft's game design delegates ample control to the player and emphasizes customization and efficiency. Armor and weapons can be customized with different attributes such as poison resistance or elemental attacks. Aeons can be controlled like normal characters during battles, unlike their earlier counterparts, guardian forces and vespers. Aeon animations can also be set to short form when the player becomes tired of viewing the full summoning sequence.

FFX's battle system offers even more variety. Overdrives, like the limit breaks of earlier *FF* games, temporarily increase characters' attack power. Overdrive meters can be set to charge with inflicted damage, received damage, party victories, or a number of other events. Of the seven chief characters, three may be in battle at any one time, though and of the seven party members can be swapped in and out of the lineup during the battle. Character swapping proves handy in awarding experience to specific characters or charging

their overdrive meters.

The most significant change in *FFX* from earlier *FF* games is in the character improvement system. Characters still gain levels by earning experience from fighting monsters. Instead of automatically gaining strength, hit points, defense, and magic as they level up, additional levels enable them to move about the Sphere Grid. The Grid consists of nodes set in concentric circles and connected by complicated, meandering pathways. Nodes contain power-ups such as additional hit points, spells, special skills, and magic defense. Characters can activate nearby nodes by using the appropriate spheres — e.g. ability spheres, power spheres. Thus a sword-wielding character can be taught black magic or a mage can be honed into a formidable fighter.

Blitzball, *FFX*'s mini-game, plays a minor part in the plot but stands alone as an enjoyable game in itself. Each city in Spira hosts a blitzball team, and players can be recruited from other teams to play for the Besaid Aurochs (Tidus's and Wakka's team). Blitzball controls allow for varying degrees of difficulty and player control. Playing large amounts of blitzball is not essential to finishing *FFX*, but it can lead to valuable items that are difficult to obtain otherwise.

The game is not for impatient souls. The sphere grid appeals to control freaks but is tedious to use; enemy encounters are frequent and often inescapable; and the attractive cut scenes are long and unavoidable. A typical treatment of *FFX* requires around 60 hours of gameplay. All that effort, however, makes one appreciate the incredible ending even more.

MOVIE REVIEW ★★★

*Family Dysfunction at Its Best**'Tenenbaums' Rules with Subtle Comedy*

The Tenenbaums take a family outing to one of Margot's plays.

By Pey-Hua Hwang

STAFF WRITER

Directed by Wes Anderson

Written by Wes Anderson, Owen Wilson

Starring Gene Hackman, Ben Stiller,

Gwyneth Paltrow

Rated R

Wes Anderson's *The Royal Tenenbaums* is a movie full of subtle chuckles. Featuring a large cast of actors who are all well known on their own, *The Royal Tenenbaums* succeeds in producing some wonderful ensemble moments.

The movie is set up like the reading of a modern fairy tale book. Each set of events

that befall the unabashedly eccentric family of characters and the poor souls that they involve themselves with is introduced by Alec Baldwin's narration of the first sentence of a chapter of a storybook titled *Royal Tenenbaums*. The movie's first chapter begins by introducing the family Tenenbaum, which consists of the absentee father Royal (Gene Hackman), persevering mother Etheline (Angelica Huston), and the three children who were child prodigies that have grown up to be dysfunctional adults: Chas (Ben Stiller), financial wizard and breeder of Dalmatian mice; Margot (Gwyneth Paltrow), playwright and closet smoker; and Richie (Owen Wilson), tennis prodigy with an unhealthy, obsessive love for his adopted

sister Margot. Eli (Luke Wilson) is the boy who lived across the street but always wanted to be a Tenenbaum, who has grown up to be a drug-abusing author of historical novels of questionable quality.

Most movies with such eccentric characters would then proceed to bring them all together for a family reunion of sorts and make them sort out all of their problems and conclude the movie with all the families problems smoothed over and a happy family picture. However, *The Royal Tenenbaums* refuses to take the easy way out, and the audience appreciates the scenic route to an ending that harkens to an earlier scene in the movie when Royal talks about what sort of epitaph he would like to have on his

tombstone.

In fact, Royal has many such scenes where Gene Hackman, who is clearly enjoying playing the part of a self-centered, childish, old man, makes blunt comments about delicate issues, but does it with such abandon and charm that the audience smiles to themselves instead of hating his character. With the help of his sidekick Pagoda (Kumar Pallana, who comes quite close to stealing several scenes) Royal is delightfully despicable as he fakes stomach cancer so he can move back into his house after being kicked out of the Lindbergh Palace Hotel, where he had lived for 22 years, and then takes his grandsons Ari and Uzi out on jaunts like riding on the back of the garbage truck, which would scandalize their father, Chas.

Chas, aside from disliking his father, is paranoid because his wife died in a plane crash and keeps himself and his sons in red jumpsuits so he can keep track of them more easily. Royal clearly favored Richie over Chas when they were young and even shot Chas with a pellet gun when they were on the same team, which founded Chas' deep antagonism towards his father. However, Royal eventually does make amends with Chas in a most unexpected gesture of solicitude.

Whereas Chas is clearly a very short fuse, Margot is the epitome of ennui. She is the object of the affections of Eli, Richie, and Raleigh Sinclair (Bill Murray), her oft-cuckolded husband. She doesn't actually love any of them except Richie and actually has several preposterous exploits, and also has only nine fingers because of an unfortunate accident. Her character is probably the least developed, however, it is interesting to observe the titles of the plays she is pictured constantly reading and notice how her fashion sense is exactly the same from childhood to adulthood.

Finally, Richie and Eli are just eccentric. Both of them have a "special" taste in art. Eli's is definitely in part drug influenced, while Richie's consists exclusively of pictures of Margot. His pet falcon Mordicae also serves the purpose of one of the few moments which approach sappiness.

Etheline's marriage to Howard Sherman (Danny Glover), the family accountant who is everything that Royal never was, mainly dependable, could easily have fallen into the sappy category, but it is disrupted in a way that stretches the idea of suspension of disbelief to its limits. However, *The Royal Tenenbaums* is a fairy tale set in reality. Its collection of vignettes depicting both the fragility and the resilience of the human condition while keeping the audience chuckling instead of warding off the gag reflex makes this movie worth watching, if only to try and catch all of the details hidden in the background.

STUDENT TRAVEL SPRINGBREAK

PRICE INCLUDES AIR & ACCOMMODATIONS!!!

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Prices include airfare, accommodation and other features. Other destinations available. Space is limited. Call for details. Restrictions apply.



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CALL FOR APPLICATIONS!!

The Council for the Arts at MIT Grants Program
is accepting applications for its next deadline
February 1, 2002

Please contact Susan Cohen to set up an appointment to discuss your application
An appointment is **STRONGLY RECOMMENDED**
email: cohen@media.mit.edu
telephone: 253-4005

MIT students, faculty and staff are eligible to apply
All types of arts projects are supported: visual, literary and performing arts

For more detailed information, read the Grants Guidelines on the web at:
<http://web.mit.edu/arts/grantguide.html>

You may also submit your application from the web, at:
<http://web.mit.edu/arts/grantform.html>

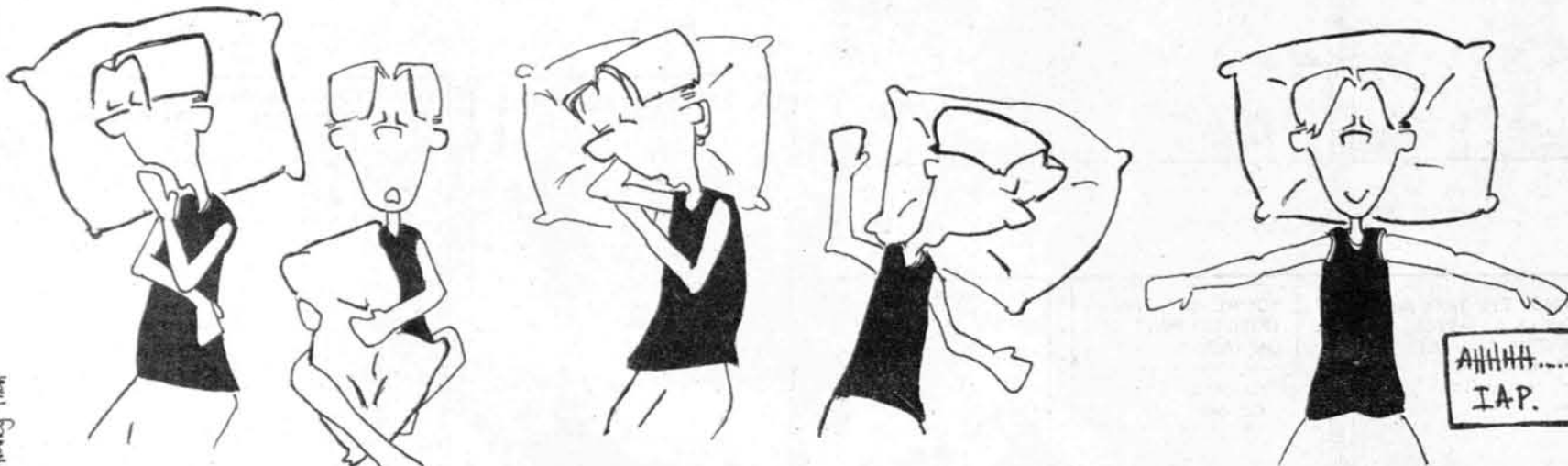
The Council for the Arts at MIT is a volunteer group of alumni and friends established to support the visual, literary, and performing arts at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Since its founding in 1972 by MIT President Jerome B. Wiesner, the Council for the Arts has worked to "to foster the arts at MIT and to act as a catalyst for the development of a broadly based, highly participatory program in the arts." Appointed by the President of MIT to three-year terms, Council members serve as advocates and advisors to MIT's Associate Provost for the Arts.

FUN PAGES

Page
8

Peoplies & PooLings

by: Henry Thon



MANGOS



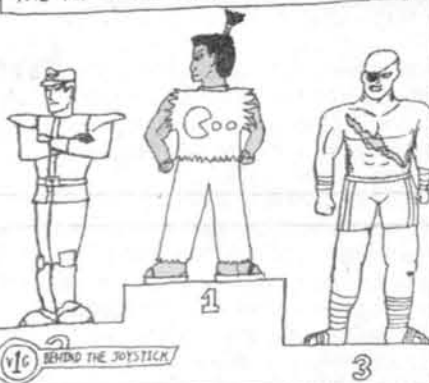
VEL - VICTORY - FAME - HYPER COMBO - SOUL - NE

VGI's
BEHIND
THE
JOYSTICK



URE - TOASTY - GLAMOUR - POWER-UP - GLORY - N

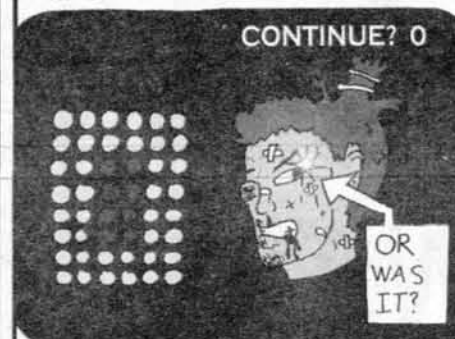
BOUYED IN 2000 BY CONTINUED DREAMCAST SUCCESS AND HIS VICTORY IN THE FIRST MS. PAC-MAN TOURNEY, IT WASN'T LONG BEFORE THE MOON GOD BECAME ONE OF MANY PLAYERS AMONG THE TOP OF THE HEAP.



BUT IN 2001, HE SUDDENLY BECAME Mired IN MISFORTUNE, UNABLE TO REPEAT AS PAC-MAN CHAMPION OR PREVENT THE DREAMCAST'S DEMISE. STRUGGLING TO AVOID HIS OWN, HE WOULD EVENTUALLY HIT THE BOTTOM OF THE BARREL.



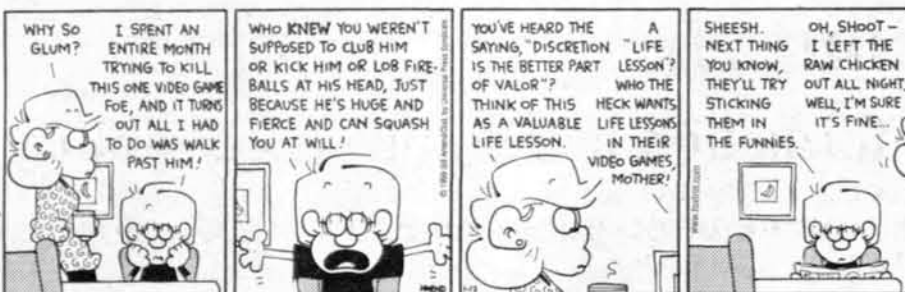
HE FACED OVERWHELMING ADVERSITY AND SEVERAL DEVASTATING SETBACKS. THROUGH FREQUENT TURMOIL, HIS EFFORTS BECAME INCREASINGLY FUTILE. ULTIMATELY, IT SEEMED THAT THE GAME... WAS OVER.



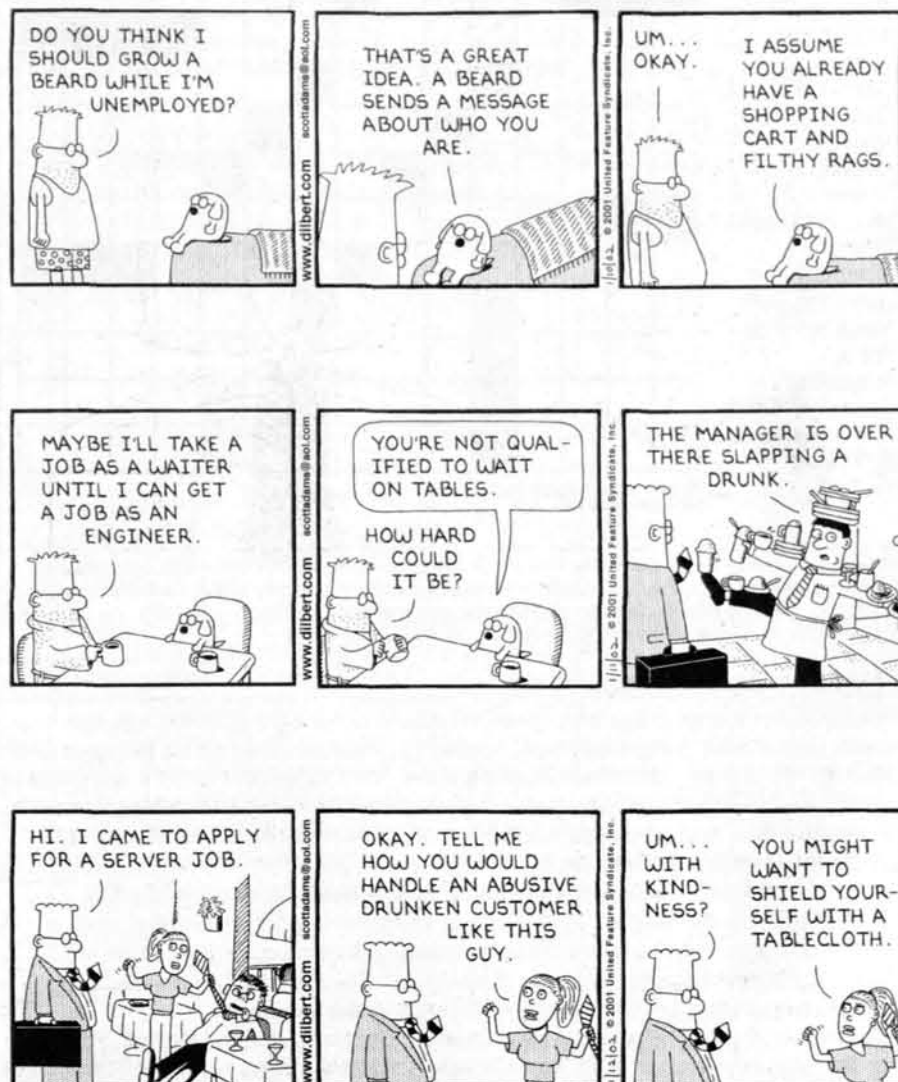
When we return... Get yo' game on, gOd! Can he pull it off?

FoxTrot

by Bill Amend



Dilbert®



by Scott Adams



open house

wednesday, january 16, 2002

11- 2 pm

room 11-103

what is atic ?

adaptive
technology
for
information
and
computing

come see a demo or try out...

- scanning and reading software
- braille translation
- learning disability tools
- screen reading software
- magnification software

learn about ...

web and information technology accessibility

more info: atic@mit.edu or 253-7808

Crossword Puzzle

Solution, page 16

- ACROSS
- 1 Attention-getting sound

5 Shadings

10 "Thief" star

14 Capital of Italia

15 "Still Me" writer

16 Capital on a fjord

17 Small, plump birds

19 Iridescent gem

20 Dreadful

21 Genetic info carrier

22 Hrbek or McCord

23 Burden

25 Huge

27 Agatha Christie play

31 Kind of dollar

32 SASE, e.g.

33 Most of Mali

38 Rubbish

40 Cunning

42 Pitcher Ryan

43 Biker's safety equipment

45 Dawn goddess

47 Decisive defeat

48 Two-note sound from a womanizer

51 Daytime show

55 Delicate fabric

56 Blue pencil

57 Hotfoot it

59 Seoul resident

63 Bologna money

64 Within reach

66 Pour profusely

67 River of Hades

68 "Auntie Mame" co-star Peggy

69 Lather

70 Bleak, poetically

71 Eve's grandson
- DOWN
- 1 St. Louis landmark

2 2/3 of a famous

3 Kuwait's ruler

4 Large-scale system

5 Malign

6 Massive ref. work

7 Require

8 Despite the fact that

9 Bun seeds

10 Singer Sam

11 Vail rival

12 Ladd and Greenspan

13 "Teachers" star

18 Chain crimp

24 Chips off the old block

26 Malicious

27 Daniel of the LPGA

28 Enticement

29 Shrinking Asian sea

30 Bass notation

34 Preakness

35 Oodles

36 Actor Julia

37 Poker fee

39 Chopped with an axe

41 Caterwaul

44 Merest grip

46 More precarious

49 "Jailhouse Rock" lyricist

50 Desktop image

51 Thaws

52 Nice good-bye?

53 Weary

54 News bits

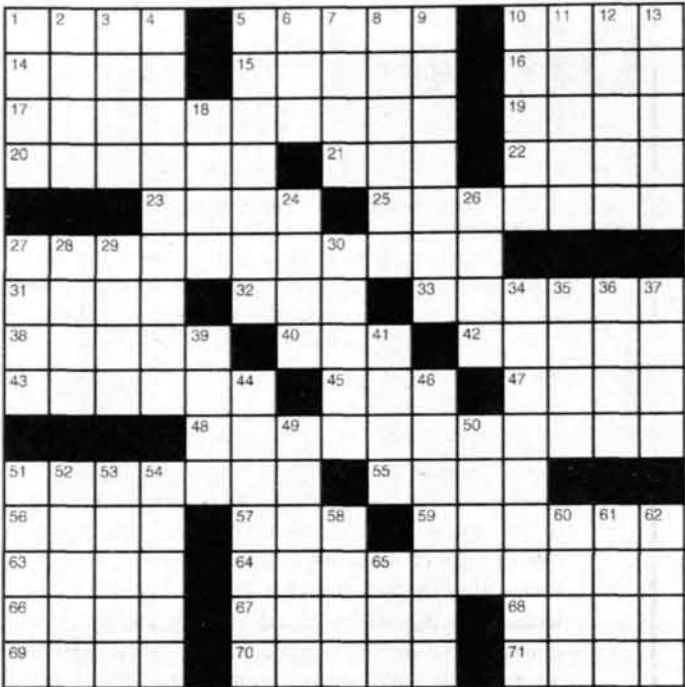
58 Usher follower?

60 Israeli diplomat

61 In addition

62 Costner in "The Untouchables"

65 So that's it!



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Events Calendar

Events Calendar appears in each issue of *The Tech* and features events for members of the MIT community. *The Tech* makes no guarantees as to the accuracy of this information, and *The Tech* shall not be held liable for any losses, including, but not limited to, damages resulting from attendance of an event. Contact information for all events is available from the Events Calendar web page.

Visit and add events to Events Calendar online at <http://events.mit.edu>

Wednesday, January 16

11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. - **ATIC Lab Open House.** The Adaptive Computing Lab holds its annual open house. Come learn about cool alternative technologies for people with disabilities! See magnification, scanning and reading, Braille translation, screen reading software, and more. Free. Room: 11-103. Sponsor: Information Systems, ATIC Lab.

12:00 p.m. - 1:30 a.m. - **Planning MIT's New Stata Child Care Center: A Design and Program Update .** MIT will be opening an innovative new child care center in the Stata Building in 2003/2004, designed by acclaimed architect, Frank Gehry. The Stata Child Care Center will serve 73 children of MIT students, faculty, and staff. Participants will be offered a slide presentation of the architectural model, a construction update, and an overview of the child care center program, with an opportunity to provide suggestions to members of the MIT Stata Child Care Center Design Committee. PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED. Free. Room: Stata Project Trailer (entrance across from Building 16/56, next to Alumni Pool). Sponsor: Family Resource Center, IAP. Department of Facilities.

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. - **Web at MIT Quick Start.** Learn how to explore the World Wide Web using Netscape, and get an introduction to the web at MIT. Topics include: navigation basics simple searching creating and editing bookmark lists printing a page a tour of MIT web pages for information and administrative applications basics of web certificates. Free. Room: N42 Demo Center. Sponsor: Information Systems.

12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. - **Modeling the Dynamic Complexity of the Nuclear Policymaking Process.** The goal of this work is to produce a system dynamics model of the policymaking process and the social/political system around energy generation issues with emphasis on public and political concerns: specifically high-level nuclear waste and greenhouse gases. A system dynamics model is useful for creating a common picture of the system and for understanding how attitudes and policies are created, as well as how they can be influenced and modified so as to obtain the desired results. Some preliminary results are presented. Free. Room: E40-496. Sponsor: Laboratory for Energy and the Environment.

12:10 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. - **Physical Oceanography Sack Lunch Seminar.** Free. Room: 54-915. Sponsor: Physical Oceanography.

7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. - **Renaissance Dancing.** There are many forms of Renaissance Dancing that we practice. From Italian balli to courtly pavans to English country. We dance them all with flair and fun. Dress is common street clothing. No experience necessary; instruction is provided. Free. Room: W20 (Sala or 407 or 491). Sponsor: Society for Creative Anachronism.

9:00 p.m. - 1:00 a.m. - **Music at The Ear.** Live electronic music starts at 9 p.m., hosted by Richard Watson. The Thirsty Ear Pub is located in the Ashdown House basement. Enter through the courtyard. Hours: Monday: 8 p.m. - 12 a.m. Tuesday - Thursday: 7 p.m. - 1 a.m. Friday: 4 p.m. - 1 a.m. Must be over 21. Proper ID required. This event is funded in part by the Grants Program of the Council for the Arts at MIT. Free. Room: The Thirsty Ear Pub. Sponsor: The Thirsty Ear Pub. MITDMC, ATat.

Thursday, January 17

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. - **BrioQuery Quick Start.** Learn how to download, install, and set up BrioQuery on your desktop. Learn how to download and process a standard report. An overview of the features and capabilities of BrioQuery will be given. Free. Room: N42 Demo Center. Sponsor: Information Systems.

2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. - **Department of Facilities staff meeting.** Quarterly meeting of Facilities staff. Room: Bartos Theatre (E15-070). Sponsor: Department of Facilities.

8:00 p.m. - **Identity: New Music for a New Century.** Vocalist Milii Bermejo along with drummer/arranger George Schuller join forces to produce a multi-layered approach to song and orchestration. Take Bermejo's heritage of folk-based and socially inspired music from Latin America, informed by her deep understanding of jazz improvisation and composition, and merge that with a septet of horns and rhythm led by George Schuller (Orange Then Blue, Schulldogs) and you have a remarkable blend of music from the far corners of the world united by a common thread: jazz. With guests pianist Tim Ray (Lyle Lovett), saxophonist Donny McCaslin (Danilo Perez), and bassist Dan Greenspan. Pre-concert talk at 7:15pm. \$10 suggested donation. Room: Killian Hall. Sponsor: Music and Theater Arts Section.

Friday, January 18

10:00 a.m. - 5:15 p.m. - **Technology and Entrepreneurship Forum.** The SEBC is proud to present our 2nd Technology and Entrepreneurship Forum, showcasing leaders in hot technologies, and providing tips on how you can get starting on the path to successful

entrepreneurship. Please check <http://web.mit.edu/sebc> for a list of workshops and speakers. Free. Room: Wang Auditorium. Sponsor: Science and Engineering Business Club.

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. - **MIT Macintosh Partners.** MIT Macintosh Partners is a group of MIT employees who help computer users in their department with Mac-related issues. A representative from Apple Computer attends many of the meetings. Free. Room: N42 Demo Center. Sponsor: Information Systems.

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. - **Adoption in America: New Trends.** Members of the MIT Adoption Support Group discuss their personal experiences of open adoption and international, transcultural and transracial adoption. Information will be offered on methods of adoption currently available. Free. Room: 16-151 (Family Resource Center). Sponsor: Family Resource Center, IAP. MIT Adoption Support Group.

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. - **Element K Workshop.** Is web-based training for me? Spend an hour in an instructor-led workshop. Learn how to get started using web-based training, explore what is offered and ask questions. Free. Room: W89-250. Sponsor: Information Systems.

8:00 p.m. - **Startup.com.** Friends since high school, 20-somethings Kaleil Isaza Tuzman and Tom Herman have an idea: a Web site for people to conduct business with municipal governments. This documentary tracks the rise and fall of govWorks.com from May of 1999 to December of 2000, and the trials the business brings to the relationship of these best friends. Kaleil raises the money, Tom's the technical chief. A third partner wants a buy out; girlfriends come and go; Tom's daughter needs attention. And always the need for cash and for improving the site. Venture capital comes in by the millions. Kaleil is on C-SPAN, CNN, and magazine covers. Will the business or the friendship crash first? Rated R for language. \$3. Room: 26-100. Sponsor: LSC.

Saturday, January 19

7:00 p.m. - **Startup.com.** \$3. Room: 26-100. Sponsor: LSC.

8:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. - **Patrol.** Shoot your friends! Travel to strange, new classrooms; meet interesting, unusual people; and kill them. A team game of shoot-em-up; guns provided. Free. Room: Building 36, First Floor. Sponsor: Assassins' Guild, MIT.

10:00 p.m. - **Startup.com.** \$3. Room: 26-100. Sponsor: LSC.

Sunday, January 20

1:30 p.m. - **Piano Recital to Benefit the Homeless and Hungry.** Benefit concert by Daniel Goodman, who received his PhD. from MIT in 1989. Program includes Chopin's Two Nocturnes Op. 37, Mozart's Twelve Variations on "Ah, vous dirai-je Maman," Brahms' Klavierstucke Op. 118, Prokofiev's Piano Works Op. 12, Joplin's "The Chrysanthemum," and improvisations on themes suggested by the audience. This is the eighth "Participatory Piano Recital" since Daniel Goodman introduced the format to MIT audiences in 1983. Goodman works as an experimental plasma physicist. Donations requested. Room: Killian Hall. Sponsor: Hillel, MIT.

Tuesday, January 22

10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. - **"Entering Space".** IAP Event. This lecture will describe some of the preparations necessary for a human space mission and the constraints involved in living and working in space. The lecture will be illustrated by examples from actual space missions. Part of the lecture series on Human Spaceflight Operations. Free. Room: MIT, 33-206. Sponsor: AeroAstro.

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. - **Microsoft Word User Group.** The MIT Microsoft Word User Group (WUG) was formed for people at MIT, from beginners to experts, who are using or interested in learning to use Microsoft Word word processing software. Free. Room: N42 Demo Center. Sponsor: Information Systems.

7:00 p.m. - 1:00 a.m. - **Ladies Night at The Ear.** Every Tuesday is Ladies Night at The Thirsty Ear Pub, with special Tuesday-only beverages. The Thirsty Ear Pub is located in the Ashdown House basement. Enter through the courtyard. Hours: Monday: 8 p.m. - 12 a.m. Tuesday - Thursday: 7 p.m. - 1 a.m. Friday: 4 p.m. - 1 a.m. Must be over 21. Proper ID required. Free. Room: The Thirsty Ear Pub. Sponsor: The Thirsty Ear Pub.

7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. - **Film and discussion: MIRACULOUS INJUSTICE.** We will watch and discuss two films about how justice is too often dispatched in Peru. "Abducted" (60 mins.) discusses the case of Hugo Munoz Sanchez, a professor kidnapped (along with nine students) and murdered by the Peruvian military intelligence service; while "Convicted by an Image" (30 mins.) argues that Lori Berenson, a former MIT student now imprisoned in Peru for supporting terrorism, "was actually convicted twice, first by a kangaroo court in Peru and then, more effectively, in the media." Free; light refreshments provided. Room: 3-133, MIT. Sponsor: MIT Western Hemisphere Project.

A Message from the MIT Office of Career Services and Preprofessional Advising (OCSA)

Dear MIT students,

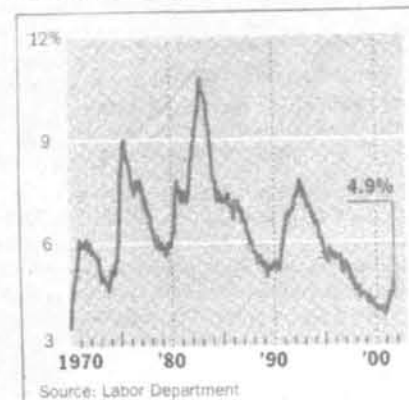
With the arrival of 2002, the Office of Career Services and Preprofessional Advising (OCSA) would like to wish you a happy new year, provide some guidance about finding a job or internship in the current economy, and encourage you to use our services. OCSA, and the Institute at large, offer a gold mine of career resources, including IAP programs, on-campus recruiting, strong employer and alumni connections, and expanded workshops, events and information. There are resources for students at all stages- freshmen, upperclassmen, professional degree candidates, Ph.D.s and postdocs- and in all departments.

What do the economic forecasts mean for your job search?

Many economic forecasts released at the end of 2001 agreed that the economy seems to have stopped its dramatic freefall, and there were some early indications that a recovery might not be far off. The unemployment rate, now at 5.7% is predicted to peak early in the second quarter of this year (at perhaps 6.5%), by which time a recovery could be emerging. A graph of the U.S. economy since 1970 shows that the current rate is historically low. References to the "highest unemployment rate in four years", omit the fact that those years represent the lowest rate of the past 40 years, and rival some of the best economic times since the industrial revolution. The fact is that the technology industry's growth spurt produced an overheated market and unrealistic expectations, both of which are now normalizing. Also, always remember that economies are cyclical. They go up, then they go down. When the down cycle is ending, as this one appears to be, a recovery often follows.

Unemployment Rate

Sharp job losses continued in manufacturing, and employment also fell in services, wholesale trade, and retail trade.



Are there any career planning benefits of a slower economy?

OCSA's staff understand the challenges of job-hunting at this time. However, along with the hardships, there are positive dimensions. Some of us have worked with students through several recessions, and have seen that a slowdown in economic activity may create a state in which reflection- a basic human need- is possible, even inescapable. The frenetic environment of recent years made it hard for students to make thoughtful, informed decisions. For example, "exploding offers" (where candidates had 24 hours to accept a job, before the offer was rescinded) left no margin to ask "Am I sure I have found the field I want? Does my choice reflect my most central values and interests? Are there different choices I might make if I thought they might lead somewhere?" One outcome of a slower economy is time for "due process" in your job search, lessening the chance that you will jump into a particular field just because it is booming. Hot fields of recent years, such as management consulting, investment banking, electronics, and internet start-ups, are not the only fields with compelling opportunities, nor are they necessarily the ones which best match your aspirations. Alumni who graduated in a hot job market often wish they had explored their career interests and options earlier, and had set their directions accordingly.

How are employers responding?

Today, employers are recruiting more strategically, participating in fewer campus events, interviewing more selectively, and traveling less than in recent years. Despite this, many opportunities exist for MIT students, who are high priority candidates for employers. 238 employers recruited in OCSA this fall, and approximately 130 participated in the September Career Week. Because employers are making hiring decisions later than in recent years, it is too early to predict what the spring recruiting season will be like. Some employers are scheduling their on-campus visit later than usual, which may result in an extended recruiting season in OCSA. Check our employer webpage regularly, for additions.

How can you influence the outcome?

More than ever, the key to a strategic job search is to be proactive and flexible, well prepared to explain your fit with an employer's needs, and aware of the other qualifications that make you a good candidate, besides strong professional training. The staff of OCSA can help you develop a successful strategy, based on knowing who you are and what you want to achieve. We can also help you present yourself most effectively in your job search. In this economy, effective presentation skills are vital.

The following is an abbreviated list of our services, to help you get started. We provide many additional tools to assist with your career development.

- ¥ Pick up a *Career Services Manual* in 12-170 or view this publication on the web at <http://web.mit.edu/career/www/handbook/index.html>.
- ¥ Visit our "calendar" link at <http://web.mit.edu/career/www/calendar.html> for information on two new venues for networking with alumni in many different fields: the Alumni Industry Panel Series and "Ask the Insider".
- ¥ Schedule an appointment with a career counselor (253-4733) to learn about self-assessment, realistically explore your options, and learn where opportunities exist.
- ¥ Attend Career Services workshops. List viewable at <http://web.mit.edu/career/www/workshops/>. Don't miss "Getting A Great Job In A Tough Economy" a special lecture by Sloan faculty member, Howard Anderson on February 13th.
- ¥ Participate in career-related IAP programs offered by OCSA, academic and administrative departments, the Biology Postdoc Association, and other MIT affiliates. See <http://web.mit.edu/career/www/SpecialPrograms/IAP2002.htm>, and pp. 11-15 in the IAP Guide.
- ¥ Register for MIT's job-listing service and on-campus recruiting at <http://www.monstertrak.com>. Spring recruiting starts the last week in January. Check this site frequently for new interview dates and job announcements.
- ¥ Use the countless networking opportunities available throughout MIT, e.g.: the Alumni Association's *Institute Career Alumni Network* (<http://web.mit.edu/alum/career/ican/index.html>), *on-campus presentations by employers* about their organizations and job opportunities (<http://web.mit.edu/career/www/presentations/>), and *speakers in various departments and programs* (The Tech's *Events Calendar* lists many of these under "lectures" and "conferences", some are publicized on departmental websites, and still more, via word of mouth.)
- ¥ Finally, attend upcoming career fairs <http://web.mit.edu/career/www/newfairs.html>. We are collaborating with other universities to bring you several new opportunities in 2002 (both virtual and on-site.) They include an *e-fair for graduate students* from February 1-15, sponsored by a consortium of graduate programs including University of Texas at Austin, Brown University and others, a *nonprofit career fair* in April, at Tufts, and a first-ever *MIT/CalTech internship eFair*, to facilitate west coast searches. Check this list regularly for additions and also see monstertrak.com (which will feature buttons for upcoming MIT efairs.)

Please know that we have redoubled our efforts to ease the difficulties posed by this economy, and are committed to helping you realize your professional goals. The more you prepare and take advantage of OCSA, IAP and other community resources, the greater your chances of surviving and thriving in any economy.

With best wishes,

Elizabeth Reed

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Chancellor Seeks Input from Community

Clay, from Page 1

students looked small, Clay wrote, "the students affected by crowding include not only the 140 students but all of the other students who room with them." More than 400 students are currently living in crowded rooms, and even those are not the only ones affected by crowding. "All of the students in the affected residence halls suffer the loss of lounges, study rooms and other spaces meant for community use," Clay wrote. Clay could not be reached for comment.

Graduate housing debated

Students are already debating possible ways to alleviate crowding. "The only options are either to continue crowding or to assign part of the graduate housing to the students," said Sean W. Kelley G. He said that he would be disappointed if the latter was implemented, but he would understand since "denying housing to undergraduates would be worse."

While some would call such an action unfair to graduate students, Dean for Student Life Larry G. Benedict argued that the issue at hand was not fairness but rather the validity of the measures suggested. Benedict repeated Clay's point that MIT has not built an undergraduate dorm in twenty years, while graduate housing has continued to increase with the addition of Green Hall, NW30 and Edgerton House.

Dormitory Council President Matthew S. Cain '02 backed Benedict's point that the issue at hand was not fairness but helping to alleviate crowding. "We need to take a step to help counter the problem. This may be a temporary solution but it might help out since it currently is the most

viable of all the options we have to consider," Cain said.

"It appears that Simmons ... will have little effect on crowding," Cain said. Simmons will house approximately 350 students, roughly the same number of freshmen who normally live in fraternities, sororities, and independent living groups.

Redwine argued that the new graduate dorm at Sidney and Pacific Streets would still benefit graduate students, even with some beds going to undergraduates. "The net effect is favorable for graduate students," Redwine said.

Colbert admitted that some graduate students would be unhappy. Cain supported this point, saying that despite the fact that assigning some graduate housing to undergraduate students would help reduce the existing crunch, it will not be good for the graduate students. "The undergrads themselves may not want to live in the graduate houses and it might be hard to convince them that it will be the same as living with fellow undergrads," Cain said.

FSILGs another option

The possibility of using fraternities, sororities, and independent living groups to alleviate crowding is also being discussed. The report suggested encouraging FSILGs to play a role in housing more undergraduates by taking steps to strengthen them. "We have not come up with specific steps we are going to take to make this happen since the idea was to encourage people to give their opinions on the issue," Benedict explained.

However, Redwine said, "There is uncertainty in FSILGs recruiting people to relieve the crunch in housing and we cannot be sure if a step taken to help strengthen them will

help them get more students."

Cain was a bit more optimistic. "FSILGs will not rush freshmen but rush will continue and the chances of them recruiting upperclassmen are high," he said.

Crowding worsened gradually

According to Benedict, the crowding problem has worsened gradually, as different stresses to the housing system compounded. For example, Benedict said, the closing of two FSILGs in the past few years added extra students to the system. Another factor was that more admitted freshmen matriculated at MIT this year. "We were very popular this year ... 1030 students came" instead of the expected 1000 matriculants.

Benedict said that the turning point in the crowding crisis happened in the fall. "What brought [the crisis] home this semester is that we ended up taking all the lounges in MacGregor" and making them doubles, Benedict said. MIT also made some quads in Baker House into quints, and crowded some New House rooms. "That clearly is not the living arrangement that that students can live in or thrive in," Benedict said.

Miranda L. Priebe '03, MacGregor House president, said the crowding situation was worse lately. "There has been a great demand on the resources we have and this has been going on for years. The student government has been working for long to try and initiate action," Priebe said.

Clay and other administrators brought up the crowding issue at various meetings throughout fall term, including Academic Council and the Committee on Undergraduate Admissions and Financial Aid.

"At this point [Clay's] thinking had been informed" by the many conversations, Benedict said, and Clay put the ideas and information into the report he sent to administrators and student leaders last week.

Report encourages feedback

The report asked its recipients, including the Undergraduate Association, Graduate Student Council, Interfraternity Council, Faculty Policy Committee, and Academic Council, to respond with feedback by Feb. 12.

Benedict said the report is not intended to let people know about policies that have been made but rather to open a forum for discussion on the issue of crowding that has been of great concern to faculty, students and parents. "Our commitment is to take necessary steps to eliminate crowding of residence halls in an effort to improve the living conditions of students by enhancing privacy and availing more space," Benedict said.

Crowding affects many freshmen

How have students been affected by crowding? Samuel N. Gikandi '05 was disappointed to end up in a lounge in MacGregor, especially after choosing the dorm to escape the crowding that was taking place in most of the other houses. MacGregor is comprised almost entirely of single rooms.

Nathaniel K. Choge '02 added that the use of the lounge in his suite to house students for the whole semester deprived him of a study area where he could do problem sets with his study group and pull all-nighters whenever he had to. "I now have to get used to studying in my room and holding the group meetings in some other places," he said.

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Application Deadline: February 1, 2002

Send a two- to three-page preliminary proposal to **Joanne Straggas, Room N42-250G** with the following information:

- the project's objectives
- how it relates to the areas of interest and the criteria
(see <http://web.mit.edu/joanne/www/d'Arbeloff/cet.grants.students.html>)
- a rough estimate of the budget

You can also send it in an e-mail to **joanne@mit.edu**. For more information, contact Straggas via e-mail or call x3-6322.

Applicants who pass the screening process will be invited to submit final proposals, due March 4. Awards will be announced in time for work on projects to begin in late spring or early summer.

Upcoming Cafe in Lobby 7 Highlights Renovations

By Karen Robinson

Almost everyone at MIT walks through Lobby 7 at least once a day, hurrying to a class or meeting. Lately, however, people are stopping, and looking up.

The Lobby 7 skylight is uncovered, for the first time in almost sixty years. The lobby itself has also undergone significant renovation and cleaning, and the addition of a small cafe and changes to drop poster policy are underway.

Lobby 7 serves four important functions for MIT, said Kathryn A. Willmore, vice president and secretary of the MIT Corporation and leader of the project group to restore Lobby 7. It is MIT's front door, it is a gathering space for people around MIT and for visitors touring the Institute, and it used to be the home of MIT's doughnut stand. It is also where people get information of all kinds from posters and publications. The restored Lobby 7 should still perform all these functions, Willmore said, while also reflecting the excellence of MIT.

MIT to put cafe in Lobby 7

After the floor cleaning is finished, a small cafe will be put near the entry from Lobby 7 into Building 1. Willmore said that such a cafe will replace the function of the former doughnut stand.

Dean Wellington "Duke" Reiter, professor of the practice of architecture and advisor to the project group, headed last year's renovation of the Information Center in Lobby 7. The cafe will have a similar look and feel, he said.

The project group will also consider how to dispense and display information in Lobby 7. Willmore said that pamphlets, newspapers, and other information will be available in dispensers on the east wall of Lobby 7, heading toward the Infinite Corridor.

Reiter said that information dissemination is the project group's current focus. He added that now that the scaffolding is down, he can set up "real tests to look at lighting" to plan other features, such as the information wall and cafe, as well as large information displays. "There are a lot of interesting computer simulations we have of how the space could look," he said, "but we didn't really know how light the stone would be."

Another question the project group will address is what to do with the statue pedestals currently on the edges of Lobby 7, Reiter said. The original designers of Lobby 7 intended to have statues lining the lobby with inscriptions on the walls near them, but now Reiter is looking for creative solutions for the pedestals, he said.

And after all that? "Then, we might be done," said Gayle M. Gallagher, also a member of the project group. She added that one more possibility is the addition of airlocks coming in from Massachusetts Avenue to prevent winter winds from blowing into the lobby. MIT's Department of Facilities is exploring that possibility, she said, but anything that alters the outward appearance of the building is much more delicate because of the building's historical nature.

New drop poster policy in works

The next big decision facing the project group will be how to replace drop posters, Willmore said. She said that drop posters do not fit with the new look of Lobby 7, but that the ability to display information with high visibility is an important function.

The project group will be holding meetings open to the student body this week and next, to generate ideas for displaying information. There, "we will discuss what needs to be said, how best to say it, and how to have flexibility and keep Lobby 7 looking great," Reiter said. Reiter, Lobby 7's lead restoration

architect, David Fixler of Einhorn Yaffee Prescott, and Ted Johnson of MIT Public Relations Services will be at both sessions.

"Students go through [Lobby 7] more than anyone," Willmore said.

Willmore and Gallagher both said that the group is looking to different technologies for a new method of displaying information. The meetings on January 17 and 23

in La Sala de Puerto Rico will discuss high-tech media and elaborate announcements as well as consider how to incorporate quick, small notices. "This is a fact-finding stage," Gallagher said.

Experts overhauled Lobby 7

Restorers replaced the glass bricks in the skylight, put new, brighter electric lights between the

skylight and colored "layment", the glass visible from the lobby floor, and repaired the layment itself. Some pieces of the current layment were still installed in the ceiling of the dome, Fixler said, while others were remade based on drawings from the MIT archive.

The green railings and metal doors in the lobby are painted so that they look like bronze, but are

aluminum, he said. Painters repainted the aluminum — first with a coat of paint to look like new bronze, then with layers of green paint containing purple and brown flecks "so that it looks like naturally aged bronze," Fixler said.

Another challenge was the ceiling and inscription on the inside of the dome. The original is an exceptionally hard plaster, meant to look like the limestone on the outside of the building. "For some reason, in 1938, they had had problems with staining [the plaster]," Fixler said. To avoid removing the original coatings the group tested several cleaning methods, which resulted in unexpected delays, he said.

Some new letters for the limestone face of 77 Massachusetts Avenue had to be carved, Fixler said. He said that some damage may have come from the street work, and he has placed monitors on some remaining cracks to see whether they get big enough to need replacement

In addition to the new light from the skylight, architects and restorers renovated the lighting on the balconies and around the base of the dome. The light fixtures on the third floor were original, but were modified and relamped to be brighter and more effective, Fixler said.

Skylight shut for WWII

Institute lore says that the skylight was covered during WWII, due to fears that light coming through the glass would make a target for bombings along the Charles River.

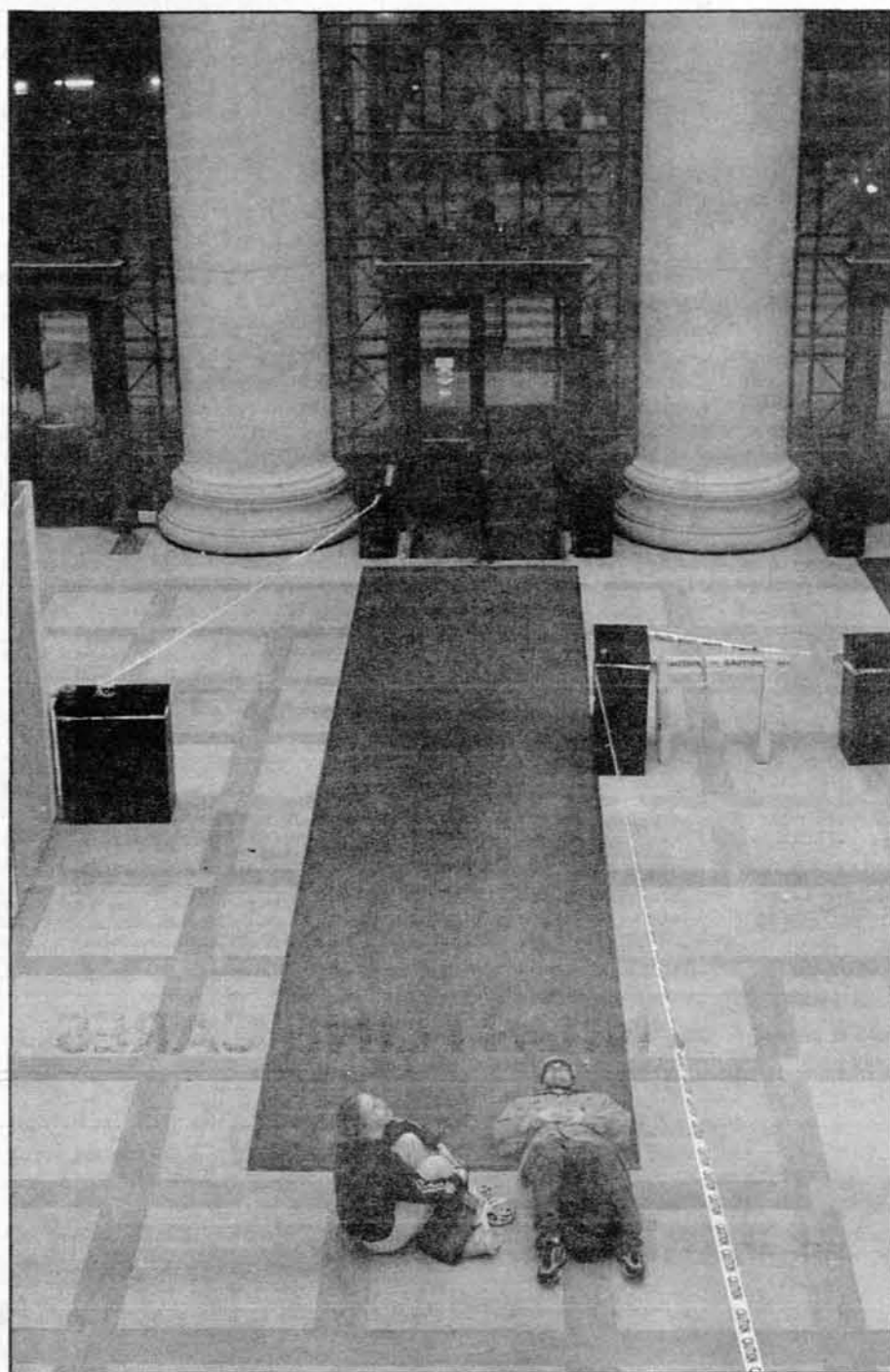
Fixler said the skylight was closed in 1941 or 1942. "We know that it was briefly reopened at the end of the war, because there is a 1945 photograph of the skylight taken by Harold Edgerton," Fixler said.

Reiter said that a 1997 report detailed all the advantages and disadvantages of Lobby 7. "[The restoration] was a committee effort," Reiter said. He added that especially when considering so public a space, "things take a lot of time. Consensus needs to be come to, voices need to be heard." Once the people involved decided to go ahead, things went quickly, he said. The decision to restore Lobby 7, including the dome, was made in Feb. 2001, and in May the scaffolding went up.

There was something of a funding crisis back in 1997, however. According to Willmore, there was a donor who helped with "a big part" of the restoration effort, but no specific fundraising drive. The Corporation is thinking of creating an "explicit funding opportunity," however, she said. "Most people are interested in contributing to the future," she said, not necessarily to restoration of the past. "The Lobby 7 project is a hybrid."

More restoration could follow

David Myers, Architect for the Department of Facilities, called the Lobby 7 restoration a "real historic preservation in a public space" and said it is important to have restored the most public space first. He said that with the completion of the Lobby 7 project, administrators and designers will naturally think now about other key signature spaces at MIT, but declined to comment specifically about possible future projects.



Dan Corson '05 and Amanda Beeson '03 admire the newly renovated Lobby 7.

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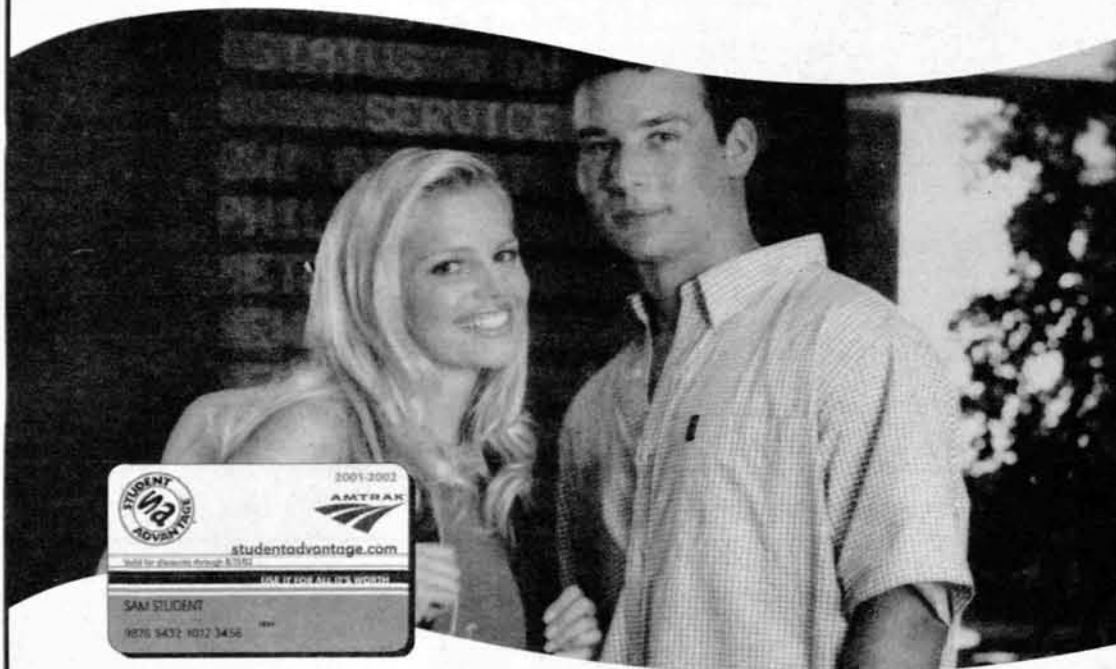
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Bylaws Revised After Hearing

Chi Phi, from Page 1

final hearing after both sides agreed that he would be an impartial moderator. IFC JudComm chair Thomas B. Fisher '02 did not chair the hearing because of his previous involvement with the case.

Gottlieb said that he was intent on "making sure both sides felt that they got a fair trial." Gottlieb himself did not vote on the ruling, but would have been able to break a tie among the other four voting members if necessary.

Bylaws rewritten following appeal

A lasting change to come out of Chi Phi's appeal process was the revision of the IFC's JudComm bylaws. The new rules shift responsibility more clearly to JudComm, rather than the executive committee. "The bylaws at the time were not clear," Gottlieb said.

Pheiffer agreed, saying that the

new set of bylaws "does a better job of distinguishing who specifically hears appeals and who specifically hears hearings," Pheiffer said.

While the new rules give more authority to JudComm with the goal of more efficient hearings, Pheiffer said this might cause problems for cases where it would be better for the IFC executive committee to act directly, such as when dealing with the Boston Licensing Board or Cambridge License Commission. "I think it's going to be a bit of a challenge," Pheiffer said.

However, he acknowledged that the old rules were unclear regarding who should hear what cases. "It was definitely very confusing," Pheiffer said.

"This is the last case that started under the judicial system rules," Nazemi said. "It took longer than it should have under the old judicial bylaws."

Nazemi said that Chi Phi wanted

to reestablish a healthy relationship with the IFC, and invited the officers to dinner at the house immediately after the appeal ended. "We're ready to move on," Nazemi said.


Wake up times, jaunts in violation

Chi Phi's first major violation of rush rules resulted from problems with wake up times. On two consecutive days, Chi Phi listed all freshman wake up times as 10 a.m., regardless of the actual time that each freshman gave to Chi Phi. This practice is illegal under IFC rules.

Chi Phi's other major violations regarded jaunts, including a harbor cruise where freshmen returned late, and a jaunt to the activities midway where return times were not entered correctly.

As a result of this final violation, the IFC Rush Committee decided to close down Chi Phi's rush. The fine and other sanctions were assessed several weeks later.

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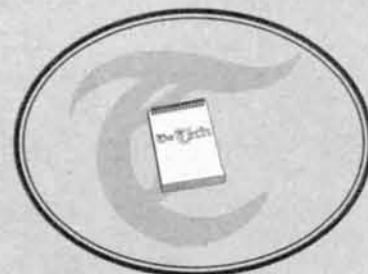
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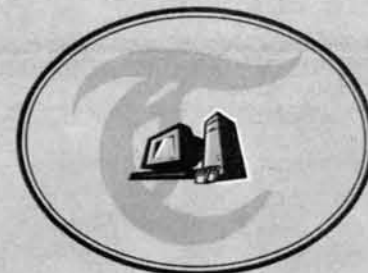
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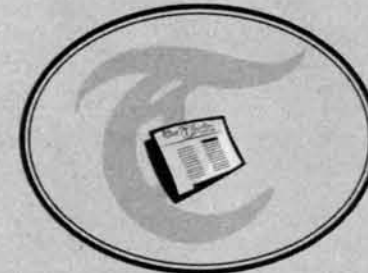
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Systems Administrator Resigns After Piracy Raids

By Jennifer DeBoer
and Keith Winstein

Christopher S. Tresco, the MIT Economics Department system administrator alleged to have illegally distributed computer software from the systems he ran, resigned on Jan. 4.

Federal agents had executed a search warrant at MIT on Dec. 11, seizing three computers from the Economics Department, MIT said in a press release. United States Customs Service investigators also questioned Tresco that day, seizing one computer from his apartment in Allston.

The seizures were part of a global crackdown on software trading, or "warez" groups. Jeffrey I. Schiller, a network manager for MIT Information Systems, said that by taking such a large-scale synchronized action to disband the ring, federal investigators "may believe they sent a message."

Three separate multi-agency Federal operations, along with foreign law-enforcement counterparts, executed over one hundred search warrants nearly simultaneously worldwide on Dec. 11, the Department of Justice said in a press release. Seizures were conducted in at least 27 United States cities and six foreign countries.

Tresco allegedly involved in piracy

Although Tresco, 23, has not been arrested or charged with a crime, Federal officials assert that he was a member of the secretive Internet software trading ring known as "DrinkOrDie" and that he used his system administration position at the Economics Department to illegally distribute software, *The Boston Globe* reported on Dec. 12. The report quoted Tresco as saying, "I regrettably got involved with some stuff I shouldn't have and to anybody I affected, I'm sorry."

Tresco's post as the Economics Department system administrator may have been valuable to the ring, Schiller said, because of MIT's high-speed connection, lack of firewalls, and the fact that, as system administrator, Tresco would have been in control of the file servers allegedly used to illegally distribute software. "It's like watching the watcher," Schiller said.

MIT cooperated in investigation

It was not immediately clear what Tresco had been doing or if anybody else at MIT knew about it. Tresco could not be reached for comment. Olivier Blanchard, head of the Economics Department, declined to comment. Tresco's co-workers in the Economics Department computer systems team were either unavailable or declined to comment.

Of the reported Federal allega-

tions against Tresco, James D. Bruce, Vice President for Information Systems, said in a written statement, "If true, this is a very serious violation of MIT's rules and the law. The violations would include misuse of copyrighted materials and software, overloading the MIT system, and using expensive bandwidth that MIT has to pay for." Bruce pledged MIT's cooperation in the investigation, and a special agent at the U.S. Customs Service office in Boston, who declined to give his name, confirmed that "various parts of MIT were very cooperative in assisting the investigation."

Schiller doubted that MIT would itself be implicated in the investigation, but added that investigators planned to search through records kept on the seized computers and might seek to charge individuals whose server logs indicated were frequent traders.

Immediately after the raids, Tresco continued to work at MIT but was "shifted to different tasks," according to a Dec. 13 report in the *Boston Herald*. The MIT News Office reported that Tresco came in to work on Dec. 12 to help the investigators sort things out but subsequently went on administrative leave. Tresco resigned as of January 4, according to the MIT News Office. Laura Avakian, Vice President for Human Resources, had con-

ducted an investigation into the matter.

'DrinkOrDie' hacked Windows 95

DrinkOrDie, which was a major target of the raids, is credited with publishing Microsoft Windows 95 on the Internet two weeks before its official release and the development and publication of one of the first tools to allow the trading of perfect copies of DVD movies over the Internet.

Bob Kruger, Vice President of Enforcement for the Business Software Alliance, an industry trade group which was credited by the Justice Department in assisting the investigations, said that some of the groups targeted by the Dec. 11 raids "appear to be responsible for much of the trafficking that's taking place today."

However, Kruger was not optimistic that the raids would have an immediate effect on the roughly \$12 billion in lost revenue from which the Alliance claims its members suffer each year, saying a decline would come when "people engaged in software piracy come to better understand the serious consequences of that type of activity."

Operations continue worldwide

In addition to MIT, investigators carried out raids Dec. 11 at the University of California at Los Angeles,

Purdue University, Duke University, the University of Oregon, Northeastern University, and the Rochester Institute of Technology. The three Federal investigations that conducted the raids were known as "Operation Bandwidth", "Operation Digital Piratez", and "Operation Buccaneer."

The Justice Department characterized Bandwidth and Digital Piratez as undercover operations involving the Federal Bureau of Investigation, while Buccaneer, which performed the investigation at MIT, was conducted by the Customs Service with DrinkOrDie as one of its primary targets. Unconfirmed online reports attempting to catalogue information on the raids indicated that DrinkOrDie was "dead 100 percent" as a result.

Although news reports quoted officials as claiming that arrests were imminent immediately after the first raids, no arrests or criminal charges have been reported in the United States. Police in London announced on Dec. 12 the arrest of six DrinkOrDie members on charges of conspiracy to defraud, Reuters reported in December. A report Monday by Reuters quotes Allan Doody, a U.S. Customs special agent, as saying the raids have continued, turning up roughly thirty suspects and that agents would again "raid an East Coast university" early this

week.

Earlier MIT case inspired law

Tresco may risk punishment under a Federal law created because of a previous case involving an MIT student. According to the government, suspects may be prosecuted under the No Electronic Theft (NET) Act, which provides for criminal copyright infringement penalties of up to three years in prison. Congress enacted the law in 1997 to close the so-called "LaMacchia loophole," a term supporters of the law used to refer to the government's unsuccessful 1994 criminal prosecution of then-MIT senior David M. LaMacchia '95.

The government alleged in an April, 1994 indictment that LaMacchia had operated a file server at MIT to facilitate the illegal exchange of software programs, similar to the reported allegations against Tresco. Because LaMacchia had not personally profited from the endeavor, the government was not able to charge him with criminal copyright infringement, and instead unsuccessfully pursued a charge of wire fraud. The NET Act closed this loophole by making the act of illegally distributing copyrighted works with a total value of over \$1,000 within a 180-day period a criminal offense, irrespective of personal profit.

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Solution to Crossword

from page 9

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Future Residents to Establish Guidelines for Selecting GRTs

Simmons, from Page 1

"We plan to make a lot of what's going on in these groups public," he said.

Daniel R. Ramage '04 said that the I3 CD will not be available to upperclassmen, so the publicity subgroup will poster campus for committee events. Current students who choose to move into Simmons will need to enter the housing lottery for next year, which takes place in April.

"One of the most important roles of publicity is establishing Simmons Hall as having a personality. We are not an arm of the administration; we are student-controlled," Ramage said.

Committee to plan GRT selection

The GRT and Visiting Scholar committee will set up guidelines for GRT selection and oversee the selection of the ten GRTs for Simmons Hall. Roberts said that some of the Simmons Hall GRTs may be experienced tutors who come from other dormitories.

Although Simmons has five apartments that were created for visiting scholars, the Founder's Group did not come up with a comprehensive plan for how these visitors will interact with the community. Visiting scholars will be appointed by the Dean's office, but the students on the committee may elect to have the visiting scholars play an active role in students' lives.

The governance subgroup will help to set policy for Simmons Hall's house government, including rooming policy and use of house funds. Although several parameters, such as the pet policy and the art-work policy, have already been set, the committee will have leeway in

things such as room selection and deciding how to raise dorm funds.

According to Roberts, the dining group will have fewer choices than the other subgroups, as many dining decisions were either decided by the Founder's Group or will be left to Director of Campus Dining Richard D. Berlin III. In addition, the dining hall will not be completed by the time the dormitory opens.

The steering committee aims to create a community that will be ready for new students this coming fall. However, many aspects of that community have yet to be determined.

"I think that key people in the administration want to promote Simmons Hall as a model for residential life at MIT. To be honest, no one knows quite what that means," Roberts said.



Construction continues on Simmons Hall, the new undergraduate dormitory on Vassar Street. While the building is expected to be open this fall, some parts, including the dining hall, are not likely to be completed on time.

JAMES CAMP—THE TECH

September 11 & Beyond: Where do we go from here?

Join experts from the MIT Center for International Studies and the Department of Political Science to explore aspects of the political fallout from the attacks on September 11.

Tuesday, January 15

The Phenomenon of "Czars" in American Politics
Prof. Harvey Sapolsky

Wednesday, January 16

The Challenge to Civil Liberties
Attorney Margaret Burnham

Thursday, January 17

US Defense and Security Policy
Profs. Barry Posen and Stephen Van Evera

Wednesday, January 23

Examining US Mideast Policy
Jeremy Pressman,
PhD candidate

Thursday, January 24

Changes in US Domestic Politics
Prof. Stephen Ansolabehere

**All sessions 3:00 - 5:00 pm
35-225**

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MIT Department of FACILITIES

CAMPUS CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Vassar Street Utilities

Access to the Main Lot under Building 39 will be restricted from mid-January through mid-February. No left turn will be possible into the lot when traveling west bound on Vassar St. Exiting from the Main Lot will be permitted to the right only.

Memorial Drive Traffic Signals

Paving for the crosswalks is complete. Work continues on the installation of the new traffic signals.

Stata Center

Form work for above grade structure sections and a raised garden area continues.

Dreyfus Chemistry Building

Loading dock access may be restricted to allow work on a storage area. Areas south and west of the building may be fenced off to allow for construction activities.

Media Lab Expansion

Pre-construction work continues. A new walkway on Ames Street has been constructed for pedestrian safety.

Zesiger Sports & Fitness Center

Roof work, dry wall framing, rough plumbing, and fireproofing continue, with special precautions regarding generation of noise.

70 Pacific Street

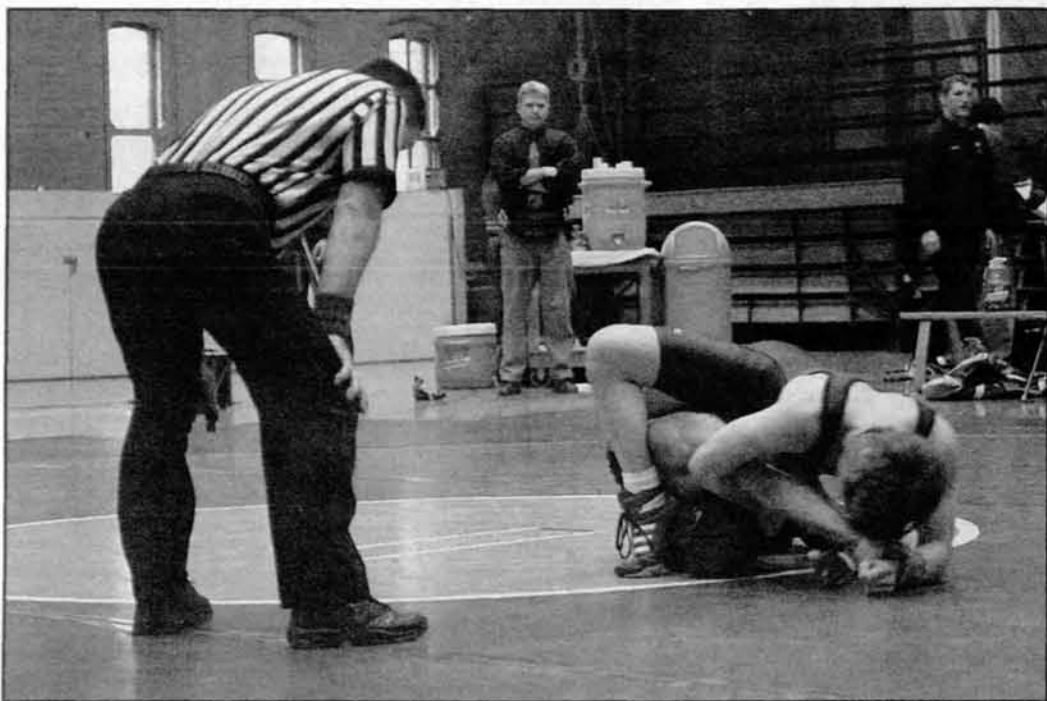
Exterior construction continues, including spray-on fireproofing, framing, sheathing and masonry work. Roof penetrations are being laid out, in preparation for the final roof installation.

For information on MIT's building program, see <http://web.mit.edu/evolving>. This information provided by the MIT Department of Facilities.



Come by W20-483 Sundays at 5:00 pm for news meetings with dinner served afterwards.

<join@the-tech.mit.edu>



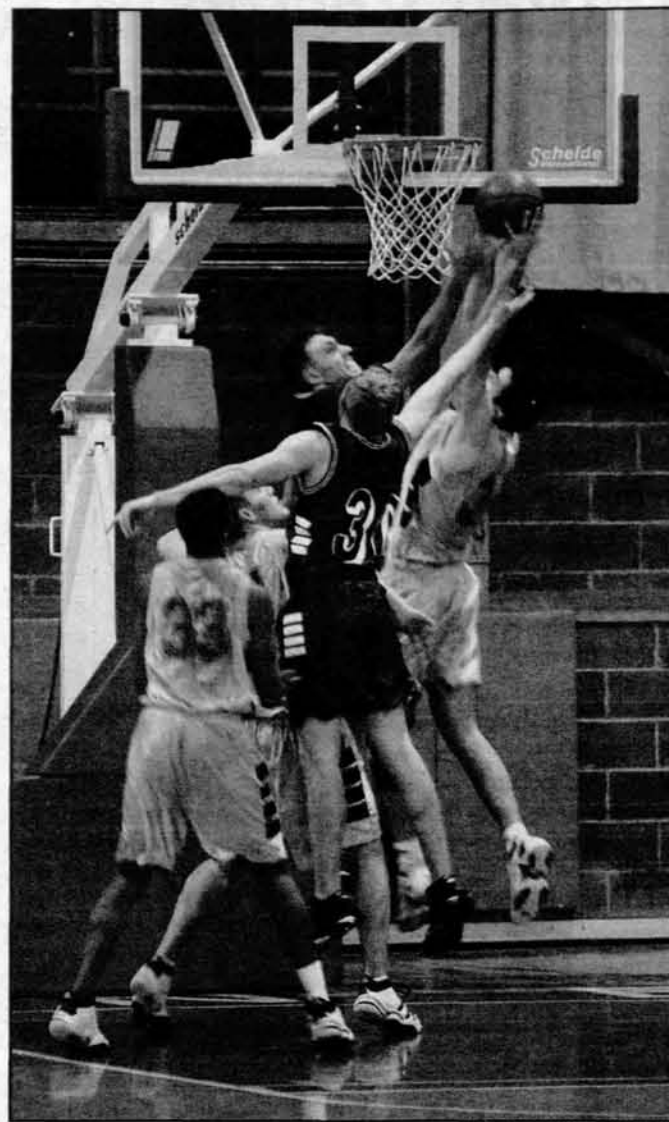
PEDRO ARRECHEA—THE TECH

Michel Lambert '05 wrestles his opponent from WPI on Saturday afternoon at the Dupont Athletic Center. MIT wrestled well despite not having a full squad, but still lost to WPI 33-18.



STANLEY HU—THE TECH

Vanessa Li '02 clears 3.20m (10'06") in the pole vault to place seventh overall at the Dartmouth Relays on Sunday. Li's mark improves on her season best of 3.16 m (10'04.25"), which provisionally qualifies her for the NCAA Division III Championships.



PEDRO ARRECHEA—THE TECH

Adam Gibbons '05 (left) and Boris Paskalev '03 (right) go for a rebound last Tuesday against Babson College. MIT lost the game 45-58.



ERIC J. CHOLANKERIL—THE TECH

Kyle T. Doherty '04 hangs on after a dunk. Doherty scored 22 points in MIT's 66-56 over Springfield College last Saturday.

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Tomorrow

